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Bush can't confirm Iraqi nuclear report

WASHINGTON, April 1. (Agencies): President George Bush said yesterday the United States strongly opposes the proliferation of nuclear weapons, but he emphasised he did not want to give credibility to reports that Iraq is building an atomic warhead for a missile that could reach Israel.

"I don't want to give credence to the fact that Iraq is in the process of building nuclear weapons. I cannot confirm that," Bush told reporters.

"Anytime you see representations that there will be nuclear proliferation, it has got to concern us. We will be making those representations if we feel it's about to take place in any country," he said.

The Washington Post reported in yesterday's editions that Iraq was building a nuclear warhead for a missile that could carry it to targets in Israel.

Asked about the Post report State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said US would view any nuclear development by Iraq with "grave concern," but declined to say whether US would condemn Israel if it struck centres Israeli officials had claimed could produce nuclear weapons.

Peppered with a barrage of questions Boucher said: "The fact that Iraq may seek to acquire nuclear capability, or the prospect that Iraq may seek to acquire the nuclear capability, is something that would be of grave concern to us and something we've been watching very carefully."

Call for purge of Iranian liberals

Renewed mood of militancy

NICOSIA, April 1. (Agencies): Iran's hardline interior minister called today for a purge of liberals and dissidents in government and backed the removal of Ayatollah Khomeini's moderate successor-designate.

In a speech at a Tehran rally marking Iran's Islamic Republic Day, Ali Akbar Mohtashemi said Iranians working for the United States and Britain had tried to push the country toward the West since the August ceasefire in the Gulf war with Iraq.

He also vowed that action would be taken against women who failed to observe hijab, the strict Islamic dress code.

Family visa transfer to be studied individually

THE transfer of the family residence permit to a work residence will be studied on an individual basis by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, according to a local daily.

The ministry will study applications of persons who have valid residence permits according to Article 22 (family residence) and want to be allowed to transfer their residence to work permits according to Article 18.

In interpreting the new labour law, the ministry will consider the family circumstances of the applicant and the need of his particular services.

The new law is on a three-month trial period and the ministry is ready to co-operate with all relevant authorities to amend any article of the law which is detrimental, the daily said.



1,000 strike in jinxed Al Qurain

By a staff reporter

A DISPUTE between the United Building Company (UBCO) and the National Housing Authority (NHA) has triggered the strike of more than 1,000 construction workers at a section of the Al Qurain housing project.

This is the second time in six months that workers in Al Qurain have struck work.

The United Building Company labourers put down their tools yesterday after four months back wages were not paid to them.

A company official has blamed NHA for non-payment of two instalments while a spokesman of the housing authority has said the company "has not fulfilled the conditions of the contract."

The workers claim they have not been paid since December and are owed about KD400,000 in back wages.

A Thai worker said: "The company promised to pay by the end of March. They have not paid us, so we decided to stop work until we are paid." There are 462 Thais, forming the bulk of labourers, on the site. A Thai foreman claimed that they are owed a total of KD150,000.

This is the second time in a month that the Thais have struck work. They had been on a three-week strike in March and went back to work 10 days back after the company promised to pay by the end of last month.

The other workers had not joined the strike. Yesterday, they also struck work. There are about 250 Indians, 200 Pakistanis and 100 Bangladeshis. The rest are Egyptians, Yemenis and Palestinians recruited on a daily wage basis.

"We continued to work during the strike by the Thais because we expected to be paid," said a Pakistani worker.

An Indian worker said: "Only after my landlord took away the electronic equipment at home in lieu of rent that I agreed with my co-workers to go on strike."

The Bangladeshi workers seemed to follow

Iraqis go to polls

BAGHDAD, April 1. (UPI): Polls closed today in Baghdad's first post-war election, which political observers believe will strengthen the hand of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and ease his war-ravaged nation into a new era of peace and reconstruction.

Nearly eight million Iraqis cast their ballots between 8 am and 8 pm for a 250-member parliament, choosing from just over 900 candidates—including nearly 70 women—who were either officially sanctioned independents, members of the country's Baathist Socialist Party, or representing small, pro-government Kurdish groups.

Government officials, brushing aside criticism even in heavy controlled newspapers that candidates appeared to have no clear policies and that the election was not being fought over any particular issue, reported a high turnout in most areas.

They said results would start coming in late today.

IPI protests

LONDON, April 1. (Reuters): The International Press Institute has protested to Colombia, El Salvador, Romania and Israel against a series of incidents in which journalists were killed, detained or impersonated by the security forces.

Mubarak wants US to be peace broker

Arabs unify position

CAIRO, April 1. (Agencies): Buoyed by support from key Arab leaders, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak left for Washington today to prod the United States into playing the role of Middle East peace broker and push for progress in the region.

He will try to convince US President George Bush that Israeli intransigence is the only obstacle to Mideast peace efforts.

Mubarak meets Bush on Monday.

The four-day visit, Mubarak's seventh to the United States since taking office in 1981, follows six weeks of intensive diplomatic exchanges the Egyptian leader initiated. The activity brought to Egypt leaders from the Soviet Union, Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

"Mubarak is carrying to the United States for the first time a unified Arab position for the achievement of Arab-Israeli peace," said a senior government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "This gives Egypt greater credibility."

The unified position was forged in talks Mubarak had in Egypt during the past week with Jordan's King Hussein, PLO leader Yasser Arafat and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Mubarak met with Hussein and Arafat at the Suez Canal city of Ismailiya last Saturday, the eve of the 10th anniversary of the US-mediated Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. King Fahd made a five-day official visit that ended on Friday.

The official said the focus of the position Mubarak plans to present in Washington is the need for speedy movement by the United States to persuade Israel to accept an international peace conference and negotiations with the PLO.

Israel fears such a conference would pressure it into concessions and rejects Arafat's group as terrorists.

The conference, under auspices of the United Nations, would group parties to the conflict, including the PLO, and the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Mubarak has said the conference would be no more than a ceremonial gathering linked to direct Arab-Israeli talks.

King Hussein and Mubarak last week commended new "positive elements" in the US position.



Mubarak stand official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

No babe yet for Benazir; security on MQM chief

ISLAMABAD, April 1. (KUNA): Begum Nusrat Bhutto, a senior minister and mother of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, has denied press reports that her daughter was pregnant.

"It is just a figment of imagination of newspapers," she told reporters in Hyderabad city last evening.

The denial came about a week after Pakistani newspapers had broken the news of 36-year-old Benazir becoming pregnant and repeated it later.

The security around the house of mohajir leader Altaf Hussain in Karachi has been tightened following firing by unknown gunmen near his residence last evening.

Extra police force was today patrolling the street where Altaf Hussain, chief of Urdu-speaking Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), lives with his family in predominantly mohajir locality of Jauharabad.

A small police posse was also posted in front of his house as a precautionary security measure.

MQM has openly advocated the settlement of 250,000 Biharis stranded in Bangladesh in Sind province after their projected repatriation.

A judge who sentenced former Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to death 11 years ago has died in Lahore, the state-run news agency Associated Press of Pakistan said.

Mushtaq Hussain died late on Thursday night after a long illness, the agency said, without giving his age.

Hussain was chief justice of the Lahore Court and president of a five-judge bench that sentenced Bhutto to death in March 1978.



An Israeli soldier fires tear-gas as Palestinians throw stones at troops during a funeral procession for an Arab youth shot several hours earlier. (Reuters wirephoto)

No strings: Solarz

Pass aid bill, Cory asks Hill

MANILA, April 1. (Agencies): Philippine President Corason Aquino today urged the US Congress to approve legislation giving \$200 million in aid to her cash-starved government because it would send a "signal to the rest of the world."

Aquino made the statement during a luncheon meeting with two US congressmen visiting her country.

"The contribution the US proposes to make, while small in relation to the total assistance required, is critical, for it sends a signal to the rest of the world," Aquino said. "We hope that signal is sent. Needless to say a change of heart would send another signal to these countries and still another message to our own people."

Philippine officials estimate the country would need some \$10 billion in assistance in order to spur economic recovery.

Several countries, including Japan, France, Australia and some West European countries, had indicated their willingness to join the aid programme, but only the United States has so far announced a specific amount as its contribution to the aid plan.

Beirut truce call ignored

Artillery duel continues

BEIRUT, April 1. (Agencies): Syrian forces fired at a key power plant in the Christian heartland today as artillery and rocket duels with Christian Army units raged on despite a United Nations ceasefire call in the 25-day-old war.

Police said one person was killed and 12 were wounded in the fighting. That raised the overall toll to 130 killed and 421 wounded since fighting erupted March 8 between Christian troops under Army commander Gen. Michel Aoun and an alliance of Syrian troops and Druze militiamen.

Christian sources said the Syrians were planning to escalate the fighting and have brought in from Damascus new artillery and rocket batteries.

They accused the Syrians of seeking to demolish key public utilities in the besieged Christian enclave of 310 square miles (800 square kilometres).

Voice of Lebanon, the Christian's main radio station, said Syrian gunners "intentionally ignored" the ceasefire plea by the UN Security Council to continue destroying Christian areas.

Voice of the People, a pro-Syrian station in West Beirut, described Aoun as "the crazy general."

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing rules, said Syrian Army gunners pounded the Christian heartland northeast of Beirut with howitzers and multi-barreled rocket launchers throughout the day.

He said Aoun's 20,000-strong



Ahdal: murdered

Makkah burial for moderate imam

JEDDAH, April 1. (Agencies): Abdullah Al Ahdal, the 36-year-old Muslim preacher murdered in Brussels three days ago, was buried today in Makkah, Islam's holiest city where he was born and where his parents still live.

Ahdal's body was flown to Saudi Arabia by a special jet sent at the orders of King Fahd.

Leading the funeral services was Abdullah Omar Naseef, the secretary-general of the Muslim World League (MWL).

Ahdal was killed on the premises of the MWL-financed mosque in Brussels to which he was seconded as preacher by the league. He was considered head of the Muslim community in Brussels, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

Ahdal, and his aide, the mosque's Tunisian librarian Salim Bahri, were shot in the head and chest. The body of the aide was flown to his home country.

Belgian authorities are still investigating the killings.

MWL said today it had sent a cleric to replace Ahdal and had stepped up security for the new man.

40 killed in Namibia clash

WINDHOEK, Namibia, April 1. (UPI): An ambitious UN programme bringing independence to Namibia teetered on collapse within hours of taking effect today, as South Africa reported 40 people killed in clashes overnight between police and SWAPO guerrillas.

See Botha threatens Page 2

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

- ایم کیو ایم کے رہنما لطاف حسین پر ایک اور حملہ
- افغانستان کے مسئلہ پر ولی خان کی وارننگ
- نیپالی آزادی کیلئے اقوام متحدہ کا اقدام
- پاکستان سے تعلقات پر بھارتی وزارت خارجہ کی رپورٹ
- جلال آباد پر گولہ باری سے سکھ اور ہندو ہلاک

WEATHER

Fair weather with light to moderate north-westerly wind.

State of sea: slight

High water: 10.00 am, 10.00 pm

Low water: 2.00 am, 2.00 pm

Sunrise: 5.37 am

Sunset: 6.07 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 36°C 97°F

Ahmad: 23°C 73°F

Falaka: 22°C 72°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 9°C 48°F

Ahmad: 11°C 52°F

Falaka: 13°C 55°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 37°C 99°F

Ahmad: 24°C 75°F

Falaka: 23°C 73°F

Minimum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 42 per cent

Ahmad: 42 per cent

Falaka: 42 per cent

only after inner cuts

1. (KUNA): Health Dr Abdel Razak moved any body killed in until after from the the ban filled in

INTERNATIONAL



Roosevelt a man of action: Bush

WASHINGTON, April 1. (UPI) President Bush gave an impromptu assessment of some of his predecessors yesterday, calling Teddy Roosevelt "a man of action," Dwight Eisenhower "a hero" and Harry Truman a man who spoke his mind.

But he delivered his biggest tribute to Ronald Reagan, describing his former boss as an uncomplicated leader who stood by "certain principles" and who left office with most people saying, "He did a good job."

A reflective Bush made the comments at a luncheon with 50 out-of-town reporters when asked by one journalist to name his "two favourite great presidents."

"First, I'd make a point that everybody looks better over time," Bush said, drawing laughter. Even Herbert Hoover, said Bush, quickly adding, however, that "this much-maligned president was not his model."

"A model would be Teddy Roosevelt. He comes out of the same elitist background that I do," Bush said. "And he had the same commitment to the environment that I do... he was a man of some action."

Bush said he has "great respect for Eisenhower... he was a hero," he led Allied forces during World War II and who brought "to the presidency a certain stability."

Standing in the east room, before a painting of Abraham Lincoln, Bush said, "I think almost all Americans put Lincoln on that list (of great presidents) some place."

Asked if there were any Democrats on his list, Bush said, "well, I respect things about Harry Truman... he was tough and said what he thought."

Thousands pay homage to Zita

VIENNA, April 1. (AP) Thousands of people converged on Vienna's city centre today to pay final respects to Europe's last empress, Zita, mourning her with all the pageantry of a monarchy that vanished more than 70 years ago.

In an outpouring of sentiment for the Hapsburg Empire that crumbled after World War I, up to 2,000 people an hour moved by the velvet-draped coffin containing Zita's remains after it was brought to the landmark St Stephen's Cathedral yesterday.

Souvenir sellers outside the cathedral did a brisk trade in portraits of Zita as a young beauty and souvenir T-shirts before the start of a requiem mass in the cathedral that climaxed a week of ceremonies for the former empress. Black flags hung from several buildings in the city centre.

As the hour for the funeral approached, unseasonably warm and sunny weather gave way to rain and dark clouds, matching the somber mood inside the cathedral.

Hundreds of people who had thronged behind metal barriers outside the cathedral sought shelter at a neighbouring subway station.

Millions more were thought to be watching live transmission of Austrian television, which set aside 4-12 hours to broadcast the funeral and burial in a nearby imperial vault.

Zita's funeral on the anniversary of the death of her husband, Emperor Charles I, in exile in 1922, was planned to be the most elaborate since 1916, when the then still existing empire buried Karl's father, Emperor Franz Joseph.

All the Roman Catholic royal families of Europe sent representatives to the funeral. But no reigning monarchs attended.

At a mass led by Cardinal Hans Hermann Groer, who termed the ceremony a "burial by the people" all the languages of the Hapsburg monarchy—German, Italian, Hungarian, Czech, Croat, Slovenian and Polish—were sounded in the intercessions read for Zita. She died two weeks ago in Switzerland at age 96.

Democracy helps Pakistan to foster ties with India

NEW DELHI, April 1. (KUNA) The emergence of democracy in Pakistan has helped that country's leadership to start looking at Indo-Pak relations from a more positive angle, says annual report of the Indian External Affairs Ministry.

Though the Indo-Pak problems, which have existed for

long, might not lend themselves to instant solution, the affirmation by Benazir Bhutto to resolve all bilateral problems within the framework of the Simla agreement has come as a welcome prelude to the normalisation of relations, it added.

Affirming that India is keen to work for an accelerated, normal-

isation of relations with Pakistan. The report hopes, that the impetus given to the relations by the meeting between the two prime ministers could be sustained.

However, this will depend in a large measure on how Pakistan responds to India's major concerns, particularly its support to

"terrorist activities against India, clandestine weapon-oriented nuclear programme, acquisition of sophisticated weapons far beyond its genuine defence requirements, reluctance to increase people to people contacts and its unwillingness to enter into non-discriminatory trade relations with India."

Regarding China, the report says Rajiv's visit to that country last year was a major event that provided a new vitality and impetus to the relations.

It was recognised that improvement of relations between the two countries would not only be in the fundamental interest of the two peoples but a

significant contributory factor to peace in Asia and the world.

Noting that both the countries had expressed their determination to settle the boundary dispute peacefully, the report says that friendly and durable co-operation between India and China has major implications for global peace and detente.

Colombo awaits political consensus

Truce offer delayed

COLOMBO, April 1. (AP) The government yesterday has held back a proposed ceasefire offer to leftist rebels because a political consensus could not be reached, a ruling party member said.

A joint statement signed by four major parties in Parliament was put together late on Thursday but it was not released because the opposition United Socialist Front refused to sign it, said the member of the ruling United National Party.

"We need an absolute political consensus on this crucial national issue," he said.

Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne had said on Wednesday that a peace deal will be offered by Friday to the Sinhalese rebels who are campaigning to topple the government.

The extremists, belonging to the Marxist People's

Liberation Front, have been blamed for more than 2,500 political killings since January. Most of the victims have been government supporters and security officials.

The independent Sun newspaper said yesterday the peace package would be a unilateral government ceasefire and an appeal to the rebels to surrender their weapons.

But opposition and ruling party members bagged over the wording of the joint appeal, aborting the offer, said Attadura Seneviratne of the opposition United Socialist Front.

The joint appeal was signed by the United National Party, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, the Tamil United Liberation Front and the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress, the ruling party member said.

1,000 strike in Al Qurain

(Continued from Page 1)

the leader and did not utter a word. "They (Bangladeshis) just joined us," said a skilled worker.

A Thai foreman said the labourers "don't want to create trouble; we just want to be paid and we'll go back to work."

Only the Thais and the Pakistanis said they are in touch with the embassies. The others said they stopped work yesterday and could not inform their embassies.

A group of Arab workers contacted the labour department at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and were asked by ministry officials to return after three days to lodge a complaint, the workers claimed.

Until December, the labourers had been getting their wages on time, they said. Some of the workers have been in Kuwait since the project started three years ago. The Thais came in batches from June 1987.

The project director of the company, speaking to workers, said the main cause for non-payment of salaries is due to the failure of NHA in paying the first and second instalments of the contracts, amounting to KD181,000 and KD315,000 respectively.

The company official claims that the NHA "has been stalling the issue by giving false pretences."

He said: "The NHA wants proof that the company had paid the salaries of workers before releasing the contract value to the company. How can the company make such payments without receiving their dues from NHA?"

The NHA supervisor, overseeing the project, said: "The company has not fulfilled the conditions of the construction contract and will not be entitled to get any dues."

The labourers told the Arab Times they would not resume work until they are paid. "Ramadan starts this week and we have to send home some money," said a Pakistani labourer.

The United Building Company is constructing 400 houses in Al Qurain for low and middle-income groups.

Some 900 Indian workers, employed by another contractor, had struck work in January for non-payment of dues. The problem was settled after the contractor agreed to pay a part of their wages and the labourers are to be repatriated later this month.

Beirut truce call ignored

(Continued from Page 1)

Army retaliated by firing 155mm howitzer shells into Syrian-held Beirut. Druze-held mountains southeast of the capital and east Lebanon's Bekaa valley.

Voice of Free Lebanon, which is controlled by the Christians' main militia, the Lebanese Forces, interrupted programmes repeatedly to urge the population to remain in bomb shelters.

Voice of the Nation, the most popular station in West Beirut, also cautioned the population against the possible escalation of hostilities.

"All attempts to arrange a ceasefire have failed. Civilians have no option but to remain huddled in basements," The radio said in a commentary.

Meanwhile, a fire at a fuel depot in Beirut's Christian district of Dora caused by Syrian shelling was "fizzling out," according to Elie Honein, manager of the civil defence department.

The UN Security Council's president, Ambassador Ake Ake, said the ceasefire appeal in a statement yesterday.

"The members of the Security Council express grave concern at the recent deterioration of the situation in Lebanon, which has left many victims among the civilian population and caused considerable material damage," the statement said.

The council's members "urge all the parties to put an immediate end to the confronta-

tions, to respond favourably to the appeals launched for an effective ceasefire and to avoid any action that might further heighten the tension," it said.

The White House has received an appeal for help from Aoun, but President Bush has not reviewed it, a White House spokesman said yesterday.

White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater confirmed that a letter from Aoun had been received. "We do have it, although it has not been reviewed or has not gone to the President yet," Fitzwater said. "But it has reached the White House."

Fitzwater declined to comment further on the reported request for help in the war-torn city of Beirut.

Asked about serious Syrian shelling in the capital, the spokesman said, "the US government is deeply concerned about the heavy exchange of shelling and consequent activities in Lebanon."

In Tehran, Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, warned the US and other Western powers against interfering in the Lebanese conflict lest they be targeted with suicide attacks.

Tehran Radio, quoted Mohtashemi as warning the US that if it wants "to enter Lebanon at (Gen. Michel) Aoun's invitation, Muslims would do what they did in 1983 against the US aggressors."

Muslim militia leaders have expressed fears that Aoun may call for the deployment of an international force to halt the conflict with Syria's allies.

Pass aid bill, Cory asks Hill

(Continued from Page 1)

US President George Bush's administration has asked the Congress for \$200 million for fiscal 1990 to contribute to the multi-country aid programme.

US Rep Stephen Solarz of New York, who visited Manila, said the aid plan was experiencing difficulty in passing the US Congress because of cuts in domestic spending and foreign aid.

But Solarz, chairman of the House subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, said he was hopeful the legislation would be approved.

Solarz denied the American aid package was tied to the continued presence of US bases in the Philippines. He said linking

the two issues would be "counterproductive," because other countries would not contribute to an economic programme that is linked to the bases.

Solarz said in Manila: "During the course of our discussion with Aquino today, we made it very clear that there is no formal linkage between the PAP (Philippine Aid Plan) and the base agreement."

Ousted Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, indicted on fraud charges, has asked the US government to pay medical bills of about \$200,000, one of his lawyers said yesterday.

The lawyer said Marcos' wife Imelda had been borrowing money from friends to pay the bills but could no longer manage.

Most profitable

Bulgaria launders drug money

NEW YORK, April 1. (Reuters) Bulgaria was accused in a magazine article yesterday of laundering more than \$2 billion a year for drug dealers and earning up to \$10 million annually for the service.

The article in Forbes Magazine said the money-laundering scheme had the approval of the Bulgarian government and had become one of the most profitable hard-currency earners the communist bloc nation had.

Simeon Dargapov, press attaché at the Bulgarian embassy in Washington, denied the charges against his country.

"I have not seen the article but from what you told me it is not the truth. We have good co-operation with the State Department in the common struggle against narcotics and narcotics dealing," he said.

The article by Forbes European correspondent Peter Fuhrman said that Bulgaria was so successful in laundering the cash that neighbouring Romania was thinking of going into the business.

Fuhrman said the laundered money came from Turkish drug dealers who controlled the heroin trade from Asia minor to Western Europe and the United States.

He said that the Istanbul-based drug dealers deposited their money with jewellery shops in that city's covered bazaars which act as bankers for illegally obtained foreign currency.

The money was then secreted across the Turkish-Bulgarian border where it was counted and sorted by three non-Bulgarian intermediaries who pay the Bulgarian government between one dollar and three dollars for every \$1,000 of foreign currency brought into Bulgaria.

The article said the currency was then taken by Bulgarian officials to Sofia airport where it was whisked through customs without any checks and flown directly to Switzerland.

There is was deposited to the accounts of several money dealers and then exchanged for gold.

The billion was then sent back to Bulgaria where the inputs were stored at the headquarters of a state trading company, Forbes said.

Family poisoned

CICCIANO, Italy, April 1. (AP) Three people died and 10 of their relatives were hospitalized after they ate food or drink water tainted with the weed killer paraquat, health officials said yesterday.

Earlier, the group presented a

Botha threatens to scrap UN forces

40 killed in Namibian clash

WINDHOEK, April 1. (Reuters) South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha threatened to expel a UN force from Namibia, alleging a serious clash between guerrillas and police at the Angolan border.

Botha said in a statement that up to 60 South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrillas had defied a UN-sponsored ceasefire which took effect early today by crossing into Namibia from Angola. He said 38 of the SWAPO guerrillas had been killed. He said two Namibian police officers were killed and 14 were wounded in the fighting.



A young boy holds up a sign welcoming Thatcher when she visited a school in a British sponsored settlement area. (Reuters wirephoto)



Thatcher visits Leopard's Valley Army base with her husband Denis (centre) Gen. Prem Chand (right) and Col. Neil Donaldson (left) of Britain's Signal Unit. (Reuters wirephoto)

Last POWs swapped

RUACANA, Angola-Namibia Border, April 1. (Reuters) Cuba, South Africa and Angola swapped their last prisoners of war and wound up joint military business yesterday, the day before the United Nations launches an independence plan for Namibia.

South African Rifleman Johan Papefius, 26, cross the dusty Ruacana border post from Angola to Namibia to be reunited with his brother, sister and other relatives.

He was traded for 12 Angolans and three Cubans who simultaneously strode the opposite way to freedom beneath fluttering Angolan and South African flags. Each side ignored the other.

On Saturday a UN peace plan starts in earnest to bring independence to South Africa's vast desert colony.

Just before the swap a joint commission of senior officers from South Africa, Cuba and Angola held its last formal meeting before handing over border patrols to the UN today.

The head of the UN force, Martti Ahtisaari, ordered a team of four senior military, civilian and police personnel to the border to investigate the clash and told them to report to him, a UN spokesman said.

"The special representative considers this a very serious development and is giving it highest priority," the spokesman said.

News of the clash came today as tens of thousands of Namibians celebrated the first day of operation of the UN Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) which is overseeing South Africa's decolonisation of the vast desert territory.

It was the first serious border clash since South Africa, Angola and Cuba signed an agreement in New York last December paving the way for elections leading to independence.

Botha gave few details, saying only that two armed groups, each with up to 30 SWAPO fighters, had crossed the border within the past 24 hours and had clashed with Namibian police.

"Unless the UN Secretary-General makes his position clear on this flagrant violation of a Security Council decision based on international agreements, the South African government will be left with no choice but to request the UN Transition Assistance Group to depart from Namibia until SWAPO comes to its senses," Botha said in a statement.

The transition process involves a ceasefire by South African forces stationed in Namibia, SWAPO, Angola and a Cuban force of 50,000 troops deployed in Angola.

Botha's statement said the clash "means that SWAPO's written undertaking... that it would cease all hostile acts as of April 1 is a farce and meaningless."

There was no immediate comment on the clash from SWAPO, which fought a 23-year bush war against South Africa and is favoured to win independence elections to be held in November.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher paid a whistle-stop visit to Namibia shortly before the announcement of the border crisis.

Thatcher extended her week-long African tour in a gesture of support for UNTAG, visiting the British contingent in the force and urging it to act with impartiality.

"The work of this unit... can help to determine the whole future of southern Africa. They stand at the gateway to peace, to freedom, independence, justice," she said.

Thatcher was due to leave Namibia later today after brief talks with Botha expected to centre on the border clash and Pretoria's threat to suspend the UNTAG operation.

Independence fever raged in the township streets of Katutura, outside Windhoek, where rival political parties staged parties to rally support.

Bodo tribals kill 5 in bloody trail of violence

GAUHATI, April 1. (Agencies) Tribal militants in northeast India committed several murders and sabotaged railroads for the past five days to press their demand for a separate state, officials said yesterday.

The militants have killed at least five non-tribals, derailed trains and set on fire 17 loaded trucks, said the officials.

The separatists, who are believed to belong to the All Bodo Students Union, killed at least four people on Thursday, they said. Among the victims was a soldier slain during an attack on an Army ambulance.

An officer of the federal government's intelligence bureau was shot and killed by the militants on Wednesday.

The Bodo tribals are demanding a separate homeland on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra River in Assam, a remote and hilly state bordering Bangladesh and Bhutan.

The proposed Bodoland would cover about one-third of Assam. Mostly prime forest and cultivable land.

"Our demand for a homeland would not be compromised," the leader of the militants, Phukan Chandra Bodo, said.

"It is a struggle for self-determination of the Bodos. We will resort to any means to achieve our goal for a separate state," he said in a telephone interview.

According to state government officials, at least 114 people have been killed since February in the separatist campaign.

The victims have been mainly non-tribal villagers in the Bodo-dominated Kokrajhar district and Udalgiri area of neighbouring Darrang district.

"Bodos attacked our village last week to retaliate after a police crackdown and destroyed 38 houses," said Lankeshwar Nath, a non-tribal resident of Majkhuhi village in Udalgiri.

"Since the government failed to protect us, we are now trying to organise self-defence," he said.

In a separate development, a powerful bomb exploded yesterday outside a missionary-run hospital in the Indian capital city of New Delhi, injuring four people, police said.

The blast prompted police to sound the top "red alert" across the Indian capital and increased patrolling. Road blocks were set up at the city's major traffic intersections.

Seoul asked not to arrest Moon

TOKYO, April 1. (UPI) North Korea warned South Korea today not to arrest a South Korean dissident in the middle of an unauthorised diplomatic visit to Pyongyang, the capital of the communist North, when he returns home in a few days.

South Korean officials have vowed to arrest the Rev Moon Ik Hwan, 71, when he returns from his meetings with North Korean President Kim Il Sung.

The South Korean officials, who were shocked by the clandestine visit, say Moon violated the national security law, which bans unauthorised contacts with North Korea, and will be arrested.

North Korea said Moon's arrest will lead to a deterioration of the already tense relations between the two Koreas.

"If they (South Korean officials) persecute Moon and continuously resort to anti-communist confrontation despite our warning, it will bring grave consequences to the dialogue and relations between the North and the South as a whole," said the North Korean Committee for Peaceful Reunification in a statement distributed by the (North) Korean Central News Agency and monitored in Tokyo.

Moon left Seoul on March 20 and arrived in Pyongyang on March 25 after stops in Tokyo and Beijing.

Polish party endorses accord

WARSAW, April 1. (AP) Communist Party leaders yesterday endorsed accords reached in talks with opposition leaders announced plans for a convention in May to elect a parliament elections.

The Communist Party Committee also internal reorganised closed party departments will be by commissions that welcome participation by non-party members.

The meeting of the 230-member central committee came nearly two months after the start of the discussions with opposition leaders, referred to as round-table talks.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Top UN council post
UNITED NATIONS, April 1. (Reuters): Soviet chief delegate Aleksandr Belonogov took over the presidency of the UN Security Council today. He is expected to press for a council meeting on the Afghan situation. He said on Wednesday the United Nations should do a better job in monitoring violations of the agreement the world body brokered last April. The Soviet Union and Afghanistan want UN military observers deployed on the frontier between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

AIDS in Europe
GENEVA, April 1. (KUNA): The number of AIDS cases in Switzerland had risen to 782, as of the beginning of March, the Swiss Public Health Office said yesterday.

Switzerland, with a population of 6.5 million, has one of the highest number of AIDS victims per head in any European country.

In the 28 East and West European countries there have been a total of 19,196 AIDS cases reported to the World Health Organisation. French heads the list, with 5,655, followed by Italy at 3,008, West Germany at 2,885 and Spain at 2,165.

Sale blocked

INDIANAPOLIS, USA, April 1. (Reuters): Four sixth century mosaics valued at millions of dollars will not be sold until a trial can be held to determine if they were taken from a church in Cyprus illegally, lawyers said yesterday.

The antiquities dealer who bought the mosaics last year in Switzerland consented in an agreement filed in court yesterday not to sell, move or otherwise alter the artworks until a judge can rule on the ownership question, said John Hoover, a lawyer representing the Greek Cypriot government.

Japan donates

TOKYO, April 1. (AP): Japan yesterday donated \$41.11 million to finance United Nations peacekeeping activities in the Middle East and Africa, the Foreign Ministry said.

The total amount breaks down into \$15.33 million for the UN Truce Supervision Force in Lebanon, \$3.84 million for the UN Disengagement Observer Force in the Golan Heights in Syria, \$7.37 million for the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group, \$1.02 million for the UN Angola Verification Mission and \$13.55 million for the UN Transition Assistance Group in Namibia.

Mitterrand visit

PARIS, April 1. (UPI): French President Francois Mitterrand will visit the United States from May 20 to 21 at the invitation of President Bush, the Elysee Palace said yesterday.

Mitterrand will have a meeting with Bush at the Bush family home in Maine May 20. The following day the French leader will attend ceremonies to mark the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the University of Boston where he will receive an honorary doctorate.

Scholar exchange

WASHINGTON, April 1. (AP): The Soviet government and a group of US universities yesterday signed what they termed a landmark agreement paving the way for unprecedented exchanges of foreign affairs scholars and professionals.

The agreement covers 13 American universities with schools of international affairs and two training institutes operated by the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, never before open to Americans.

A mean cuisine

GENEVA, April 1. (Reuters): If you live in Europe you stand a reasonable chance of suffering from salmonella food poisoning but are very unlikely to die from it, according to figures issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) yesterday.

The information followed after a major row in Britain where the government said at least 23 people died last year from egg-related salmonella. The junior Health Minister, Edwin Currie, was forced to resign in December after saying most British egg production was infected.

The figures emerged from consultations with scientists from 14 countries and from international organisations. The salmonella bacteria, often passed on by hens, causes infection in humans marked by severe diarrhoea. The WHO figures show that more than one in 500 people in Europe are likely to be infected this year but the chances of dying are about one in a million.



Dr Jessica Porter has her hands full as she gives a warm soapy bath to an oil covered sea bird. (Reuters wirephoto)

FBI enters spill probe**Dying drift in**

VALDEZ, Alaska, April 1. (UPI): The FBI yesterday joined the investigation of America's worst oil spill as sea otters and birds continued dying a slow death in the waters of Prince William Sound fouled by 11 million gallons (41.6 million l) of crude oil.

The weeklong disaster also dealt an economic blow to Alaskan fishing industry as state officials issued emergency orders yesterday cancelling planned fishing seasons, called fisheries, for sablefish and shrimp in the ecologically sensitive area.

Fisheries officials also planned to decide today afternoon whether to close the multi-million-dollar season for herring, a valuable product on the Japanese market. Biologists reported the nation's worst oil spill was taking its toll on wildlife as hundreds of birds and other tar-coated animals were dead or dying.

"We're never going to have a body count," said Everett Robinson-Wilson, a US fish and wildlife biologist. "We're never going to be able to tell how many animals die out there. Some sink, some float."

Day 7 of the spill saw the first animals brought in — 10 oily sea otters and 27 birds — to a makeshift rescue centre in the town's community college.

The FBI entered the investigation to determine if the spill violates the Clean Water Act by constituting "a negligent discharge of a pollutant into navigable waters of the United States," Bureau spokesman Bill Carter said in Washington.

This investigation is being fully co-ordinated with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Justice's Land and Natural Resources Division, the US Coast Guard, the National Transportation Safety Board, the US Attorney's office and the Alaska Attorney-General's office.

ABC News, quoting anonymous sources at the Interior Department, reported last night that Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan offered five teams of federal firefighters, nearly 100 people, to help with the cleanup. Exxon turned him down.

Criticism of the world's largest oil company continued as dead animals began turning up by the hundreds and the unchecked spill grew to 862 square miles (1,387 sq km).

Alaska Commissioner of Environmental Conservation Dennis Kelso said Exxon recovered three per cent of the oil and could do more. He said there was oil sitting in bays ready to be scooped up.

Exxon was doing little scooping despite renewed promises Thursday to return Prince William Sound to its original pristine state.

Exxon USA on Thursday fired the captain of the tanker that hit a reef south of the port of Valdez March 24 because he failed a blood-alcohol test 10-1/2 hours after the spill. Captain Joseph Hazelwood was absent from the bridge at the time and had assigned an unqualified subordinate to pilot the tanker through the iceberg-dotted Sound.

The Coast Guard also has begun licence revocation proceedings. Hazelwood's blood-alcohol level was .061 — 50 per cent higher than the legal limit of .04 for operating a vessel, said William Woody, head of the NTSB team investigating the spill.

The blood test was taken about 10 hours after the accident, and Coast Guard Admiral Edward Nelson said, "you could extrapolate that he would be over .2 at the time of the accident."

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NEW YORK, April 1. (AP): An experimental apparatus to harness fusion power at room temperature has so far produced only about one ten-trillionth the energy needs of an electric toothbrush, but it gives hope, a researcher says.

"I think we have a new approach to fusion," said Steven Jones of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. But he cautioned that the experimental results still must be scrutinised and confirmed by other scientists, and stressed that the apparent power output was very low.

Even if the results are confirmed, it would take many years before the process could be put to practical use, he said.

Jones spoke yesterday at a physics colloquium and a later press conference at Columbia University in New York.

In Salt Lake City, one of two researchers who first announced the discovery, B. Stanley Pons, said yesterday he had found no chemical explanation for the process by which he achieved sustained, controlled nuclear fusion in a simple experiment.

"It cannot be explained by any known chemical process," said Pons, a professor at the University of Utah. "I can conceive of no other process other than a nuclear process" to explain the results.

Fusion is the process that powers the sun and stars, where tremendous amounts of energy are released when the nucleus, or core, of one hydrogen atom fuses with the nucleus of another hydrogen atom.

In contrast, today's nuclear power plants get energy from fission, which is the splitting of atoms.

Standard fusion experiments use extremely high temperatures to get the hydrogen atoms to fuse. But Jones, Pons and Pons' colleague, Martin Fleischmann of the University of Southampton in England, announced recently that they had independently found a simple way to produce fusion reactions at room temperature.

Essentially, they used electrical current to herd hydrogen atoms into metal electrodes, where the hydrogen atoms apparently fused.

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More hope than energy from fusion

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Purge begins**Police on high alert for unrest in Kosovo**

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, April 1. (Reuters): Yugoslav police stood guard against possible further unrest in Kosovo province on Saturday, the anniversary of bloody riots in 1981, as the region's communists ordered a purge of all major institutions.

Twenty-four people are officially reported to have died this week in the worst ethnic unrest in Yugoslavia since World War II, as ethnic Albanians protested against constitutional changes limiting Kosovo's autonomy within Serbia.

A party document expected to be adopted by the Kosovo Communist Party's Central Committee later on Saturday said it should "determine concrete individual responsibilities in all social and political institutions in the province."

The purge is to be carried out by April 20 and party branches risk sanctions if they do not comply.

At the Central Committee meeting in the provincial capital Pristina, 220 km (135 miles) south of Belgrade, Politburo member Ijaz Ramajli said many activists behind the region's troubles remained in office.

"Ideological and political differentiation is assignment number one," he said. The terminology commonly means a purge of officials.

Former Kosovo Party chief Azem Vllasi and other officials were arrested in February and face possible charges of counter-revolution, which carries a maximum penalty of death.

Although the latest protests have subsided over the past four days, Pristina remained tense and officials said they were ready for more trouble.

Armoured vehicles stood before strategic buildings in towns across the predominantly ethnic Albanian province as armed police in full riot gear patrolled the streets.

Serbia, Yugoslavia's largest republic, approved measures giving it greater control over Kosovo, a constituent part of the republic which has enjoyed self-rule since 1974.

The curbs, promoted by Serbian Communist Party leader Slobodan Milosevic, were to permit a crackdown on alleged nationalists among the province's ethnic Albanian population accused of driving minority Serbs from their homes.

"Organised hostile forces are not quiet yet and are announcing new actions to mark the eighth anniversary of counter-revolutionary demonstrations," said Kosovo Interior Minister Jusuf Karakushi.

He was referring to the 1981 separatist riots which led to martial law.

Sea change in Malta splash

VALLETTA, Malta, April 1. (AP): The famed former commander Brig. John Spiteri was hit on the head with his own ceremonial sword and pushed into the sea by a group of about 200 Socialist Party supporters during a "Freedom Day" parade yesterday.

Prime Minister Eddie Fenech Adami said the incident turned "a national holiday into a day of shame." He also cancelled all the remaining official events for the holiday.

Witnesses said Spiteri was receiving the salute from the parade in the nearby Port of Vittoriosa when the crowd edged him toward the sea, struck him with his sword and shoved him into the water.

The boy was first taken by ambulance to the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, Kent, and his arm was rushed there by police. Then Matthew and the severed arm, packed in ice, were taken by helicopter to East Grinstead's Queen Victoria Hospital, 55 miles (90 kilometres) west of Folkestone.

Bustah grabbed it with such force it was torn off at the elbow, authorities said. Zoo spokesman Tom Begg said the little boy had crossed the safety barrier to get to the cage.

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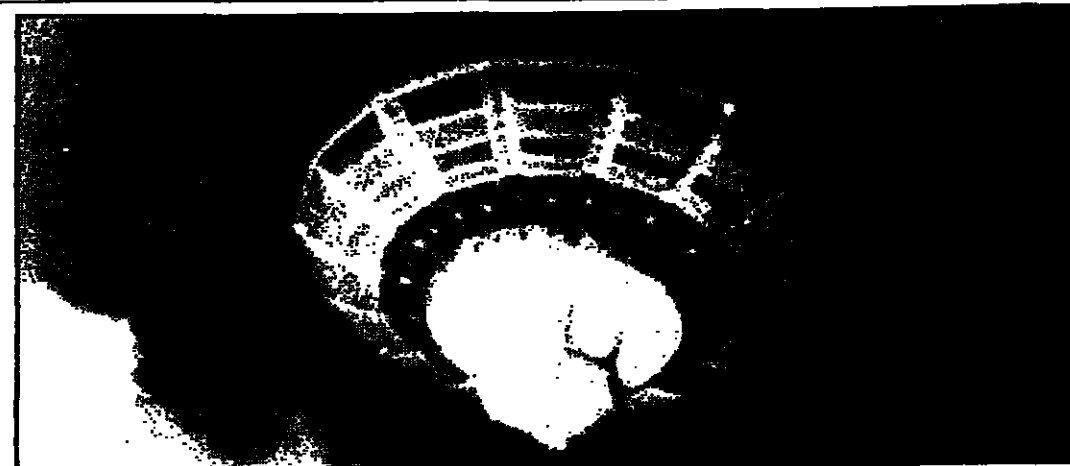
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Richard Branson's 'flying saucer' hovers above Surrey. (Reuters wirephoto)

Hoax halts highway traffic

LONDON, April 1. (AP): British tycoon Richard Branson flew a hot-air balloon disguised as a flying saucer as an April fool stunt and stopped suburban highway traffic in its tracks, police said.

Branson, founder of the Virgin Atlantic Airline and Virgin Record Stores, set out at 5 am (0500 GMT) yesterday in a balloon equipped with a gleaming silver casing and flashing lights, the domestic news agency Press Association said.

Branson, intended to fool people into believing they saw an unidentified flying object (UFO) then own up to the hoax on April 1 — the traditional day for playing tricks on people, the agency said.

Motorists were so intrigued by the would be spacecraft hovering in the skies over Surrey county, south of the capital, that they stopped on the M25 highway, police said.



HH the Amir with British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd and Kuwaiti Interior Minister Sheikh Salem.

Hurd in talks with officials

Crime information swap proposed

By Diane Diaz
Arab Times staff

KUWAIT and Britain are forging closer ties, as both countries work to combat international terrorism and drug trafficking, according to a visiting British official.

Douglas Hurd, the British Home Secretary, said the two countries will strengthen co-operation "in very specific areas of police work." However, Hurd declined to go into any detail about the co-operation agreement, saying it would be revealed over time.

Hurd's comments came at a press conference yesterday evening. The British secretary, reluctant to give specifics about his meetings with Kuwaiti officials, responded to reporters' questions with general, often vague statements.

He said the two countries were working toward a

"quick and accurate" exchange of information on issues involving international crime.

Confidence

That includes building confidence between the agencies involved and getting to know each other on the person level, he said.

The two countries will also share information on the techniques they use to combat terrorist activity and drug smuggling, he added.

Hurd arrived in Kuwait Friday evening on the leg of his eight-day, four-country tour of the Gulf. He met with HH the Amir, the minister of foreign affairs, and his Kuwaiti counterpart, Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Salem, the minister of the interior.

Hurd, who has already met with officials in Oman and Bahrain, will fly to Saudi Arabia today to complete his Gulf tour.

Arab states urged to crack down on bad drivers

Car manufacturers rapped for glorifying speed

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

US Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) has urged Arab countries to launch a crack-down on bad drivers as a means of cutting the traffic accident rate. "Laws by themselves won't accomplish much unless they are well publicised and strictly enforced. The motorist has to be convinced that there is a real chance of him being caught and receiving a penalty if he violates the traffic law," said Brian O'Neill, IIHS president.

O'Neill made his comments in response to questions from Arab doctors, traffic department

heads and journalists in a TV dialogue programme on highway safety. The programme was transmitted on Worldnet, a US government network which provided a satellite link-up with participants in Kuwait, Doha, Amman and Dhahran.

Evidence

Although education campaigns, awareness weeks and high school driver education can be useful, evidence based on solid research has shown that they don't produce safe drivers, O'Neill said.

He heard some grim statistics from the Gulf states.

A Qatari participant said that human error was responsible for

85 to 90 per cent of traffic accidents in the Gulf while a Saudi participant said that his country recorded last year 32 deaths per 100,000 population.

In the US as well driver error contributes to accidents in high proportion, O'Neill said but mortality rate is much lower, 17 deaths per 100,000.

Kuwait which registered a decline in deaths from 519 in 1982 to 321 in 1988 now has the same mortality rate as the US. Explaining the high mortality rate in Saudi Arabia, O'Neill said that countries which are going through first decades of widespread availability of cars are characterised by high death rate.

The US, he said, went through the same experience in the 1950s. O'Neill strongly advocated seat belt wearing which he said has the quickest impact on reducing mortality. There is solid evidence that seat belts if worn, reduce the chance of injury or death by 45 per cent.

Seat belts

O'Neill, who also serves on the Department of Transportation's Motor Vehicle Safety Research Advisory Committee, rapped car manufacturers for glorifying speed and performance in their sales campaigns. These features particularly appeal to young risk-taking men who are most frequent victims or perpetrators

of traffic accidents.

"Car manufacturers are acting irresponsibly in the way they portray vehicle use," O'Neill said. O'Neill was somewhat puzzled by accusations by Kuwaiti participant Sabah Al Rayes, chairman of Road Safety Society, that the US is exporting cars which do not meet the minimum safety requirements.

"In the US we have strict federal safety requirements for newly manufactured cars but we do a poor job of getting rid of unsafe cars from our highways," he said. He proposed that Kuwait impose stricter laws to make sure such cars do not enter the country.

Medical services may be charged

THE Ministry of Public Health will begin charging nominal fees for medical services, due to the increase in cost and with a view to curb misuse, according to a reliable source.

Dr Nael Al Nagib, under-secretary at the Ministry of Planning, said that the government is studying a plan which proposes annual contributions for health services from all citizens and expatriates. According to the plan, citizens and expatriates pay a part of the contribution and their employers will pay the balance.

Dues

The charges are intended to cover items such as services of preventive health, accidents, serious diseases and malignant diseases. For nationals, the Social Securities Establishment will pay their dues while expatriates will pay only a part of the total costs, the official said.

Commenting on the behaviour of some physicians who write prescriptions without examining the patient, Nagib said that this is an error of judgement, although pressure on some health centres is one of the reasons for such diagnoses, he added.

Drug prices

This abnormal situation is being redressed by using the family practitioner system and the new health registration system as well as increasing the number of health centres and the levying of nominal health charges, Nagib said.

A law unifying prices of drugs at private pharmacies will be issued after it has been reviewed by the Ministry of Health. Physicians should restrict prescribing drugs except in very essential cases, Nagib said.

Meanwhile, in a related issue, a local daily interviewed a number of residents on the level of health services provided by the government.

Several of those interviewed complained of long delays in receiving appointments to see the doctor. They said that appointments are spread over a long period of time, in some cases months. Many complained that without influence (wasta) the waiting period is endless.

Complaints

Several attributed this state of affairs to a shortage of medical and nursing staff, and added that doctors work only one shift.

Others interviewed complained of a lack of examinations by doctors before prescribing medicines, utter disregard for the needs of the patients by nurses and a lack of medical co-ordination with the administrative authorities in addressing patients' needs.

Jaber Al Arbid, one of those interviewed, said that many patients now prefer going to private hospitals to receive better treatment. "Patients are more respected there than at government hospitals," he added. He called on officials at the Ministry of Public Health to conduct surprise checks at medical centres and clinics to determine the accuracy of complaints.

Considerable drop in unsolved crimes

Bad cheques on the increase

CRIME rates recorded against unknown persons dropped significantly last year compared to the previous year, which reflects the efforts exerted by Kuwait's security apparatus, according to a senior official.

Col Mohammad Al Shatti, director of the statistics department at the Ministry of the Interior, speaking on crimes in Kuwait said that the incidence of bad cheques has remarkably increased. Most cases were recorded in the capital, followed by Hawalli, he said.

He added that statistics compiled last year showed that thefts from cars had also increased. Deaths resulting from traffic accidents also increased. Last

year, 321 people died from road accidents, compared to 300 in 1987.

Security men have foiled several attempts at smuggling drugs, alcohol and arms, Shatti said.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Minister of the Interior Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, addressing volunteers at the Civil Defence Department said that the country was witnessing a state of political stability and called on volunteers to be armed with education, training and patience to take precautionary measures to face any unfavourable developments.

Volunteers will be given every type of co-operation to preserve the security of the country on completion of their practical training, the official said.

He added that the Ministry of the Interior is contemplating the establishment of reactivation training courses periodically for volunteers in co-operation with the conscription department.

On conscription for girls, Sheikh Salem said the concept is to be advanced in several stages one of which is the civil defence system whereby training will prepare Kuwaiti girls to shoulder their respective responsibilities.

Sheikh Salem said that a group from the civil defence corps' first batch of volunteers will be selected soon to carry out some duties such as traffic, cleanliness and security.



Ladies in colourful costumes at the charity bazaar which opened yesterday.

Nasser opens charity bazaar

20 countries participate in festival

By Lima Al Khalefawi
Arab Times staff

A TRADITIONAL festival organised by Al Fatah Club took place yesterday on the club premises.

The festival, which was opened by Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Sabah yesterday, received strong support from the participants and appreciation from a stream of visitors.

Twenty countries have come to participate, competing with each other to display their traditional and folkloric costumes and dances.

Women and small children wearing the colourful costumes and headgears attract enthusiasts

visitors, some of whom have wanted to buy the various costumes being exhibited.

The Sudanese corner steals the show with various beautiful displays of wooden handicrafts, leather goods and ivory products. Visitors were eager to ask a little girl dressed in a traditional Sudanese bridal gown about the wedding ceremony in the Sudan. Women from the Sudanese community dressed in bright gowns provided information about their country.

The Kuwaiti corner is crowded with visitors wanting to smell the traditional musk. Folkloric entertainers also attract people, with traditional music and singers. Sadu carpets are hung on the walls and old wooden trunks beautifully displayed. Such displays reflected the old Kuwaiti style of living.

The bazaar of traditional handicrafts and national dishes is considered both a cultural and social festival, highlighting the folkloric features and civilisation of different countries.

This year the bazaar provides an internal broadcast, transmitting information and folkloric music of each country. Brief historical information is also provided in English, Arabic and French to all visitors.

Traditional sweets of each country are offered as well. The festival serves to unite the many different communities living in Kuwait, by sharing their traditions. It welcomes guests twice a day, from 9-12 noon and from 4-8 pm through April 3.

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Kuwait Fair exhibitions a success, says official

By Khaled Ahmad

EXHIBITIONS hosted by Kuwait International Fair during the first quarter of the current year have been successful, the last of which was the Electro Exhibition opened by the minister of commerce and industry, according to an official source.

Mohammad Ahmed Al Gharaballi, chairman of the board and managing director of the fair, told Al Seyassah that the number of participants had increased — particularly the Electro Exhibition where the total number of participating companies increased by 80 per cent.

Visitors

He added that the fair was visited by 476,000 people and had the active participation of 371 different companies, both local and international. The number of exhibitions to be hosted during the second quarter of this year will be increased, and more exhibition halls will be opened next October to accommodate the heavy schedule for future exhibitions.

Gharaballi said the fashion wear show held in December 1987 was not successful due to the unfavourable circumstances prevailing due to the Iran-Iraq war. Conversely, the last agricultural exhibition hosted 70 participants from various international countries. Some of the participants such as Poland, the USSR, and Kenya were first time entrants.

Kuwaiti efforts in Lebanon commended

KUWAIT, April 1. (KUNA) Chairman of the Lebanese Editors Syndicate Milhem Karam has commended the efforts being exerted by Kuwait to bring an end to the 14-year-old Lebanese crisis.

"The Lebanese are attaching great hopes on the well-intentioned efforts exerted by HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah, and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed to end the prolonged Lebanese dilemma," Karam told KUNA.

Expressing support to the Arab League's Good Offices Committee on the Lebanese crisis which is presided over by Sheikh Sabah, Karam said Kuwait's endeavour to settle the Lebanese conflict was not strange "because Kuwait is the healer of all Arab and humanitarian wounds."

"What Kuwait is doing for Lebanon is a debt on our necks which we highly appreciate," he added.

Telephone dispute

Youth murders older brother

A 16-YEAR-OLD Iranian youth has been arrested by security personnel of Hawalli governorate for the alleged murder of his 19-year-old brother, according to official sources.

The victim had objected to the accused's continual lengthy conversations on the telephone with a girl. Disturbed with the reprimand, the accused apparently knifed his older brother to death.

The accused is under investigation.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Gulf states achieving health for all

BAHRAIN and other Gulf countries are well on the way of achieving the target of "Health for all" set by the World Health Organisation (WHO), according to a leading Bahraini health official.

Addressing a session of the primary health care seminar, Dr Ibrahim Yacoub, assistant undersecretary for Primary and Public Health, said the Gulf states in view of their similar approaches to health issues have been closely co-operating in promoting improvement in the quality for health care for all people.

He said Gulf states have both human and material resources to be able to reach WHO's goal.

Solutions

Representatives of the seven Gulf states highlighted the problems of their individual countries in dealing with various health problems and in the implementation of the solutions to these problems.

The role of the education ministries and women's organisations was particularly emphasised. Among the discussions also included the role of the mother in immunisation, breast-feeding and taking preventive measures for accidents.

The seminar also covered collaboration between different departments within the health ministries to promote health programmes. Kuwaiti representative, Dr Rashid Al Rashoud, was impressed with the developments of the seminar and hoped the recommendations to be proposed will be implemented in each country.

Seminar on treating fractures

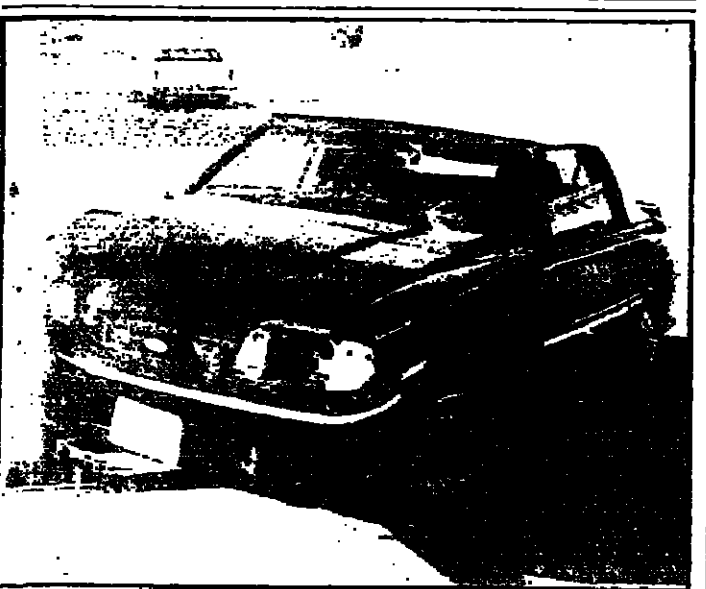
FOR the first time in Bahrain a health seminar on treating fractures will be held between June 11-14 at the College of Medicine.

The seminar organised by the Swiss Association of the Study of Internal Fracture of Fractures, will be attended by more than 50 bone specialists from the Gulf states as well as experts from Germany and Switzerland.

Dr Ali Jafar Al Aradi, consultant orthopaedic surgeon at Sulman-ya Medical Centre and secretary of the seminar organising committee, said the meeting will feature discussions to improve techniques and surgical aspects of treating fractures.

It will enable local doctors to improve their skills in treating different fractures.

Dr Aradi added that modern techniques will be demonstrated in a workshop using plastic bones as models in treating fractures.



Up the pole

A brand new car rests itself against an electric pole after a rash driver rammed it on the street. The owner of the car was left wondering if this is really traffic week.

Pak warned of spillover

Kabul repels rebel attack

ISLAMABAD, April 1. (Agencies): Pathan nationalist leader Abdul Wali Khan has again warned the Pakistani people of a possible spillover of Afghan war into Pakistan territory if the situation inside Afghanistan deteriorated further.

The Scud surface-to-surface missile which hit Torkham area close to Pakistani border two days ago could also hit Peshawar, Dera Ismail Khan, Bannu and Mohmand agency and other parts of the North-West Frontier Province bordering Afghanistan, he said in a speech in Jamrud near Peshawar yesterday in memory of his late father Abdul Ghaffar Khan.

Wali Khan, who is the president of Awami National Party, said that if the Soviet made Scud missile had fallen a bit farther than Torkham it would have caused large scale destruction and devastation in the Pakistani territory.

According to Pakistani newspaper reports the Scud missile fell only three hundred metres short of Pakistani territory killing nine persons and injuring 25 others besides causing large scale devastation and destruction. Mass circulation Urdu daily Jang today reported that the missile killed more than 200 persons, injuring about 500, and leaving more than 100 missing.

It said that the missile caused a 200-foot-wide crater. The newspaper also said that there was great panic in the border areas of Pakistan, including Landi Kotal, Jamrud, Peshawar, Charsadda, Komat and Kurram and Mohmand tribal agency.

In the estimation of Wali Khan the growing interference of Pakistani government in the internal affairs of Afghanistan was compelling the Afghan government to use heavy weapons, like Scud missiles.

Pakistan government, he char-

Kabul prayer

Zia's son vows

KARACHI, April 1. (Reuters): The son of former Pakistani military ruler Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq vowed today to carry out his father's wish to pray at Kabul's main mosque alongside Afghanistan's Muslim guerrillas.

Zia, killed in a plane crash last August, pledged several times during his 11-year rule that he would pray in the Afghan capital's Pul-e-Kheshti mosque with the guerrillas he supported in their fight against the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

gud, was treating Afghanistan as its fifth province and trying to install puppet government of mujahedeen in Kabul.

The Awami National Party chief, who is currently under fire from opposition and right-wing elements of Pakistan for writing letters to world leaders on Pakistan's "interference in Afghanistan", has also been criticised by the Communication Minister of interim government of Afghan mujahedeen Ahmed Shah. Shah accused Wali Khan of behaving like an ambassador of Soviet Union.

Twenty-two people were killed when rockets hit a Sikh temple in the besieged city of Jalalabad, according to refugees brought to Afghanistan's capital by the government.

Sikhs who were brought by government helicopter to Kabul said 21 Sikhs and one Hindu were killed Thursday when rockets landed in and around the Sikh gurdwara, or temple. Members of the Sikh minority gathered today in Kabul to pray for the dead.

US-supported Muslim

guerrillas fighting to overthrow Afghanistan's Marxist government began their attack on Jalalabad on March 3.

The Afghan government says its troops repelled rebel attacks by guerrillas on Jalalabad.

Mohammad Nabi Amani of the Foreign Ministry said insurgents used arms supplies from Pakistan to hit Jalalabad and the surrounding area with more than 8,000 rounds of rocket and artillery fire in the 24 hours ending at sundown Thursday.

He did not say how close the guerrillas were to Jalalabad, but he claimed government troops "pushed back the attacks and consolidated their positions."

Soviet transport planes carrying tonnes of flour resumed flights into Kabul yesterday as a government minister confidently predicted that Afghan rebels could not starve the city into surrender.

"We have not collapsed until this time - ask the people whether the government can survive," said Commerce Minister Burhan Gazi.

"We hate this policy (the rebel attempt to starve the city). The people want to live in peace," he added.

Gazi was giving an impromptu briefing to a few Western reporters during an inspection visit to a windswept checkpoint on the Salang highway on the northern edge of Kabul.

He said snow on the highway, which runs from the Soviet border to the Afghan capital, was more of a hazard to food supplies than attempts by rebel mujahedeen to block the roads.

Delays in transporting food by road meant the authorities had to resort to air supply to ensure that at least 600 tonnes of flour reached Kabul daily, but bad weather had closed the capital's airport on Wednesday and Thursday.

Iran is desirable partner: Gorbachev

MOSCOW, April 1. (Agencies): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday granted Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati a surprise audience at the Kremlin during which he stressed the "growing dynamism" of Soviet-Iranian relations. Tass news agency said.

"We regard Iran as a desirable partner," the official Soviet news agency quoted Gorbachev as telling the Iranian diplomat.

"The improvement of Soviet-Iranian relations is also of international significance."

Tass said Gorbachev pointed to the "growing dynamism of relations between the two countries in the spirit of good neighbourliness."

Velayati, who returned to Tehran after a 24-hour visit during which he carried a message from the Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini, held talks with Gorbachev on

Afghanistan, the Middle East, the Iran-Iraq settlement and other issues, according to a vague and brief dispatch, by Tass.

"The two sides reached agreement in the assessment of the forthcoming visit to the USSR of the Iranian parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, it said.

Velayati also held talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

who reiterated the Kremlin's view that the United States and Pakistan should stick to the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan under which Moscow withdrew its troops on Feb 15 after nearly a decade of war in Afghanistan.

Velayati arrived in Syria today for talks with President Hafez Assad on Lebanon, where Christians and Syrian-backed Muslim militias are locked in fighting.

Curfew imposed

2 die in unrest

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 1. (AP): Israeli troops shot and killed one Palestinian today in a clash in the biblical village of Bethany and one Arab reportedly died of wounds inflicted by Jewish settlers, the Army and Arab hospital officials said.

The military said a Palestinian from the West Bank village of Bethany was shot and killed after a group of Arabs stood an Army jeep patrol lightly wounding two soldiers.

An Army spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the officer in charge of the patrol fired at the group, wounding one Palestinian.

The soldiers took the wounded Arab to Muqaddas

Hospital in East Jerusalem where he died, the spokesman said.

Arab reporters identified the Palestinian as Akram Mustafa Mahmoud Yassin, 24, and said he was shot in the head by Jewish settlers.

The Army said another Palestinian died of gunshot wounds suffered on Thursday, but could not confirm reports by Arab hospital officials and Israel radio that he was shot by Jewish settlers.

Arab reporters identified him as Tareq Awad Farah Amir, 23.

The Army imposed a curfew on the village's 4,000 residents after Yassin's funeral.

UN envoy in talks with Iraqis on truce

UNITED NATIONS, April 1. (Agencies): A second round of talks between Jan Eliasson of Sweden, the secretary-general's special representative on Iraq-Iran peace negotiations, and the Iraqi delegation ended here yesterday with no comments from either side.

The two-day talks are in preparation for the UN sponsored ministerial meeting on the Iraq-Iran conflict in order to implement Resolution 598, calling for a negotiated peace settlement.

The ministerial meeting will probably take place in the second half of April somewhere near New York.

Another possible location will be Geneva, UN officials said.

The Iraqi delegation was led by Ismat Khatami, Iraq's UN envoy and includes Riyadh Al Qusbi, ambassador at the Foreign Ministry, and Amir Al Anbari, Iraq's envoy to Washington.

Another second round of preparatory talks between Eliasson and the Iranian delegation will be held here on April 6-7.

In Baghdad, United Nations special envoy Marrack Gouding held talks today on stabilising the seven-month-old ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, a UN spokesman said.

Gouding met with Defence Minister Gen. Adnan Khairallah after a visit to the central sector of the 740-mile (1,200-kilometre) frontlines monitored by the 350-man UN Iran-Iraq military observer group.

The spokesman, Salim Fahmawi, said the UN official also would meet with Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz before returning to New York tomorrow.

Gouding arrived in Iraq on Thursday after a four-day visit to Iran.

He is discussing with Iraqi officials reported violations of the Aug 20 ceasefire, which the UN observers have said were minor and quickly corrected.

But Western military analysts here said one major violation reported more than two weeks ago involved artillery exchanges in the southern border sector near to Iraq's port of Basra and Iran's oil-producing Khuzestan region.

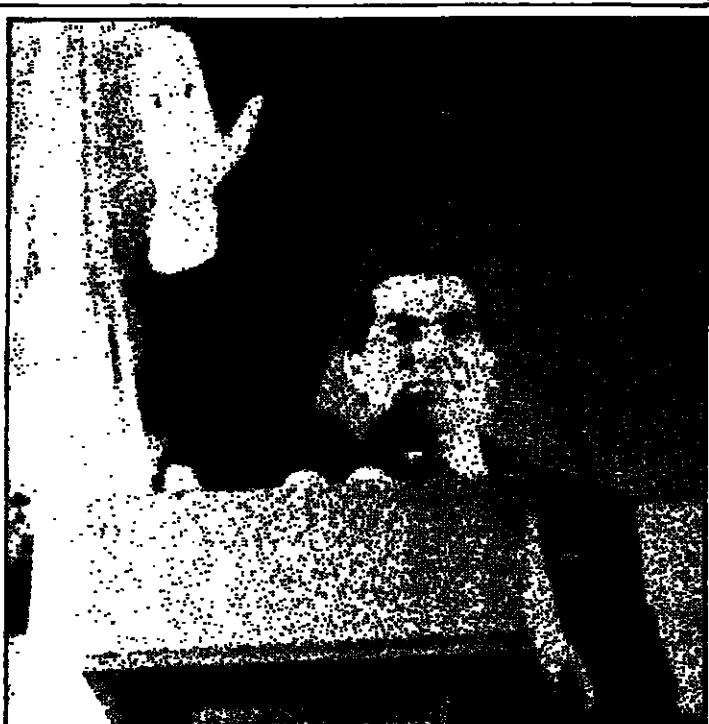
Iraq accuses Iran of flooding low-lying ground in this area in an effort to dislodge Iraqi troops from their positions.

Iran will release 70 Iraqi prisoners of war today, according to an Iranian statement released yesterday. Iran still holds over 50,000 prisoners captured during the eight-year Gulf war with Iraq.

A note from Iran's UN mission said the Foreign Ministry had informed the International Committee of the Red Cross in Tehran that the 70 sick Iraqi POWs would be released unilaterally on Islamic Republic Day today, marking the day 10 years ago when voters approved making Iran an Islamic state rather than a monarchy.

The Red Cross has registered 50,182 prisoners held by Iran and 19,284 held by Iraq, but UN officials and diplomats estimate the total number of POWs is about 100,000.

Iran earlier this month rejected Iraq's proposal for an exchange of all prisoners, saying that the warring armies must first withdraw to the border.



Ben Ali addressing a rally at the end of a two-week election campaign. (Reuters wirephoto)

Religion belongs to everyone

Ben Ali rebukes Islamic movement

TUNIS, April 1. (Reuters): Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, in a keynote election address yesterday, said religion was for everyone and no group could claim a religious monopoly.

In an indirect rebuke to the Islamic movement which has emerged as the main challenge to his own party in parliamentary elections tomorrow, Ben Ali said:

"Using religion to score points is unacceptable. No group has a monopoly on it. Religion belongs to the nation and to everyone. Good deeds alone distinguish one Muslim from another."

The role of Islam in Tunisia has been the central theme of the campaign. The ruling Democratic Constitutional Union (RCD) upholds the separation of state and religion, while the Islamic movement says the two cannot be divided.

Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche, in a speech this week said, "the imam (Muslim prayer leader) must not, on pain of violating religious law, interfere in any secular question on which believers are divided."

But Sheikh Mohamed Lakhoua, Islamic candidate in a Tunis constituency said in an interview, "Islam is an inseparable whole. It embraces all aspects of human life, so there can be no dividing line between religion and the state."

The Muslim militants, standing as independents because they have no legal party, are contesting the elections in 20 out of the country's 25 constituencies.

Only the RCD and the main opposition party, the left-of-centre Movement of Socialist Democrats (MDS), are fielding more candidates.

The RCD has accused the Islamic movement of posing as the only true believers standing in the elections and of using democracy as a means to preach anti-democratic ideas.

The debate has left the MDS and other leftists on the sidelines and political sources say the independents are the force most likely to break the monopoly the ruling party has enjoyed in parliament since independence three decades ago.

The competition is for all 141 seats in the Chamber of Deputies (parliament) and Tunisians are watching closely to see if Ben Ali's government fulfils its pledge to eradicate the vote rigging prevalent under his predecessor, Habib Bourguiba.

It is the first general election since Ben Ali had Bourguiba removed from power in November 1987 on grounds of senility.

Murder, rape cases

Saudis behead six

RIYADH, April 1. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has beheaded six men convicted of murder or rape, the Interior Ministry said today.

It said Mohammed Ibrahim Ali, a Saudi, was executed yesterday for kidnapping and raping a girl in Abha in southwestern Saudi Arabia near the Red Sea.

Abdu Mohammed Abdu, a Yemeni, and Saudis Saleh Musleh Nuwayed and Abdullah Hassan were executed in Riyadh and Makkah for killing men in personal quarrels, the statement said.

Mohammed Mustapha Ibrahim, from Chad, was beheaded in Makkah for killing a soldier trying to arrest him for drug possession.

Saudi Arabia enforces sharia (Islamic law) which stipulates beheading for such crimes as murder and rape and the amputation of a hand for thieves.

The official Saudi Press Agency reported earlier that a Thai man convicted of murder was beheaded in a public square in Al Khubar, south of Dammam, after Friday prayers.

PM playing for time

New Turkish cabinet faces confidence vote

ANKARA, April 1. (Reuters): Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's new cabinet faces a vote of confidence on Tuesday after a local election defeat. It is likely to win but that may not protect it for long, commentators said.

Ozal shuffled his cabinet yesterday to rejuvenate his image after local polls on Sunday in which 78 per cent of Turks voted against his Motherland Party.

"Perhaps the prime minister does not want to believe it, but for him the curtain has fallen," wrote leading columnist Mehmet Ali Birand in the liberal daily Milliyet newspaper.

The 25-man cabinet would easily win the confidence vote in parliament, where the centre-right Motherland Party still has 292 out of 450 seats, State Minister Mehmet Yasar said.

There have been no public defections from the party so far but political sources said between 50 and 100 might consider joining the 58 deputies from the

conservative True Path Party (DYP) of former Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel.

Western diplomats said the shuffle and vote might help Ozal delay mounting opposition calls for a general election, but probably only until 1990, two years early.

The new cabinet seemed aimed at defusing criticism of Ozal's party for alleged nepotism, corruption, economic mismanagement and pro-Islamic fundamentalist tendencies.

The party's religious right was outweighed in the cabinet by free-market liberals led by the new Deputy Prime Minister Ali Bozer, in charge of pursuing Turkey's application to join the European Economic Community.

Most importantly for diplomats, bankers and businessmen, Ozal sacrificed his younger brother Yusuf Ozal, the state minister in charge of the economy since 1987.



Offering condolences

A public prosecutor yesterday demanded life imprisonment for a ruling Motherland Party deputy who is accused of shooting to death an opposition party legislator inside the Parliament building.

Police said Idris Arkan killed Abdurrazzak Ceylan on Wednesday when Ceylan intervened to stop a quarrel between Arkan and an independent deputy over the results of Sunday's local elections. The Motherland Party suffered a crushing defeat throughout Turkey in the polls. Picture shows Prime Minister Turgut Ozal (right) condoling relatives of Ceylan. (Reuters wirephoto)

Banned Israeli goods smuggled to Arab states by 'traitor' tycoon

NAQOURA, Lebanon, April 1. (Reuters): A Shiite tycoon masterminded a multi-million dollar business smuggling banned Israeli fruit and vegetables to parts of the Arab world.

Lebanese merchant Amin Al Hajj says his Israeli goods are reloaded and shipped to other parts of Lebanon and Syria, some from a militia-run port in south Lebanon.

"Some of my merchandise makes its way to Damascus," said Hajj, who lives in virtual self-exile in north Israel and sometimes visits the Jewish state's self-declared south Lebanon security zone.

Smuggling Israeli eggs and bananas may be a lucrative business, but several attempts have been made to kill Hajj, who never travels in south Lebanon without

his Israeli-made sub-machine-gun.

He is looked upon as a traitor by many Lebanese and as a sinner by fundamentalist Muslim for dealing with Israel.

Hajj has created success out of the chaos in Lebanon, which bans all Israeli products but has been controlled by feuding armed groups since the outbreak of the civil war in 1975.

When Muslim West Beirut was deprived of food and water in an Israeli siege in 1982, many people died without fresh fruit and vegetables after discovering they came from Israel.

Nevertheless, huge Israeli trailer lorries carrying thousands of dollars worth of goods still line up every day at the frontier in south Lebanon.

About 30 Lebanese traders are involved in the business, but Hajj is the biggest and best known. He estimates the merchandise imported from Israel last year was worth \$15 million.

For security reasons, all trucks are stopped at the border where goods are loaded on to Lebanese lorries. But Hajj's vehicles have special permission to drive into Lebanon with an Israeli military escort.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

A gift from King Fahd

NICOSIA, April 1. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia is providing Egypt with a ground station to receive transmissions from satellites of the Arab League's space agency ArabSat, the official Saudi Press Agency reported.

It quoted Information Minister Al Hassan Al Shaer as saying the station, worth 20 million riyals (\$5.3 million), was a gift from King Fahd, who returned to Riyadh yesterday after a four-day visit to Egypt.

Egypt was readmitted to ArabSat on Thursday. It had been suspended from the Arab League's agencies because of its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Howe arrives in Qatar

DOHA, April 1. (AP): British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe arrived today from New Delhi and immediately started talks with the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, the Qatar News Agency reported.

Howe was heading to Bahrain later in the day as part of a Gulf stopover on his way back from India and Pakistan.

QNA said the meeting also was attended by the Crown Prince and Defence Minister, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, as well as the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Ahmed Bin Seif Al Thani.

Armed search boats

FRANKFURT, April 1. (AP): A West German company yesterday said it is building four armed search and rescue boats for Saudi Arabia.

The Hamburg-based company, Blohm and Voss, said the boats were intended for use by the Saudi Arabian border patrol and will be outfitted with "typical light police weapons."

"Beginning July 1989, the first pair of boats should be shipped to Saudi Arabia," the company said in a statement.

The statement described the boats as 38 metres (about 125 feet) long, about eight metres (26 feet) wide and said they are rated at about 210 tons each.

Envoys of whisky and vodka

BELGRADE, April 1. (AP): The Libyan government, charging that some of its diplomats have become "ambassadors of whisky and vodka," is planning a sweeping purge of its foreign service, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said yesterday.

In a report from Tripoli, the agency quoted the official Libyan newspaper Al Jamahiriya as saying that "a number of ambassadors and diplomatic staff will come under the decisive strike of the revolutionary forces."

Urgent aid to families

KUWAIT, April 1. (KUNA): PLO chairman Yasser Arafat said in a statement to Al Anbaa newspaper that the supreme committee on the uprising will extend urgent aid to 45 thousand families in the occupied Arab land.

Arafat said PLO executive committee member Jamal Sourani was entrusted with launching contacts with world law experts to acquaint them with Israeli repression against the Palestinian people.

Mengistu meets US delegation

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia, April 1. (AP): President Mengistu Haile Mariam met with a visiting US congressional delegation and reiterated his desire to improve ties between Ethiopia's Marxist government and the United States.

Algerian bid to heal Syrian rift with PLO

TUNIS, April 1. (Reuters): Algeria is trying to mediate an end to the longstanding feud between Syria and the mainstream PLO, a Palestinian leader said.

Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), deputy to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat in the Fatah movement, said any PLO-Syrian dialogue must be based on Syria accepting the PLO's new peace strategy.

But in Damascus, a semi-official Syrian newspaper lashed out at the PLO's peace strategy today, saying it failed to force Israel to make peace.

Khalaf told Tunisian journalists yesterday: "Algeria is working to open a dialogue between the PLO and Syria and we have accepted this Algerian mediation."

"But those who want to talk to us must do so on the basis of the Palestine National Council in Algiers and its resolutions."

The council, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, last November proclaimed an independent state of Palestine and approved a peace plan based on the Palestinian state living alongside Israel.

Syria, which backed a rebellion against Arafat in 1983, is the only Arab country which has not recognised the new state. Syrian-based Palestinian groups denounced the PLO peace plan as defeatist.

The Syrian comment was apparently timed to coincide with a meeting of the PLO central council in Tunis at which Arafat was expected to be criticised by the Syrian-based groups in the PLO.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NEVER trust a man who speaks well of everybody —
John Churton Collins, English literary critic (1848-1908).

Setback for rebels

Lesson of Jalalabad

By Oliver Wates

QUETTA, Pakistan, (Reuters): The battle for Jalalabad has convinced mujahedeen guerrillas in south and west Afghanistan that they must fight this war their own way.

In tackling Kandahar and other provincial capitals over the coming weeks and months, they want to avoid the kind of all-out assault launched on Jalalabad, according to rebels in neighbouring Pakistan. Instead, they will try to isolate government forces and talk them into defecting.

"The war, they will try to isolate government forces and talk them into defecting."

"The war in Jalalabad proved that conventional assault is not to the advantage of the mujahedeen," white-bearded guerrilla commander Mohammad Nur Amin said, an opinion common among the rebels in the west Pakistani city of Quetta.

"The casualties we are suffering make us very angry and it leads to failure. Martyrdom is good, but failure is bad."

"This was a guerrilla war, suddenly it changed to a conventional one," said guerrilla doctor Ghulam Dasgiri.

The main Western-backed rebel parties, based in the northwest Pakistani city of Peshawar, launched the attack on Jalalabad early in March. Minefields, heavy shelling and bombing — and stout resistance — all but halted the advance.

Privately the guerrillas admit to suffering heavy casualties, with estimates of the dead ranging between several hundred and more than 2,000.

The damage to morale may be even more serious.

Many rebels and western Afghan watchers in Quetta blame the Pakistani military and in particular the controversial Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) for the Jalalabad setback.

ISI has been in charge of channelling arms to the rebels for many years and since the Soviet withdrawal started last May it has taken an increasingly active advisory role, rebel sources say.

The rebels say ISI pushed them into launching the assault against the judgement of most local guerrilla commanders.

The city is in a defensible position, within easy bombing range of government air bases near Kabul and the defenders were well dug in.

The rebel sources in Quetta said that for the past two or three months commanders around Kandahar had been resisting pressure from ISI to mount a similar operation there.

"They are trying to do the same thing in Kandahar," one rebel activist said.

An Afghan working for an international aid organisation said: "People are totally united to see that it does not happen in Kandahar. The colonels (ISI) can yell all they want."

"I see commanders every day. They look over their shoulders to make sure no one is listening and say 'if we wanted to take Kandahar by assault it would take us four years,'" he said.

Kandahar, 200 km (120 miles) from Quetta, is a former capital and principal city of southern Afghanistan. Ten years of civil war have left it badly damaged with the population reduced to an estimated 40-60,000.

But it remains a key target and if captured by the rebels would be a worthy capital for their interim government.

The rebel sources put the total number of defenders at 15-20,000, a tough nut for the guerrillas to crack if they stood their ground. But rebels hope they can persuade the defenders to desert President Najibullah's government.

"I reckon there's a lot of negotiation going on in Kandahar to convince the army to stage a coup," a Western Afghan watcher in Quetta said. "There are a lot of people with relations on the other side."

While the rebels rule out any major assault on the city itself, the airport is a prime target.

The guerrillas suffered a reverse last week when they bungled an attack on a Kabul government post at Tor Kotal, a few km (miles) down the Quetta road from the airport.

A Jamiat-i-Islami official said his party lost 16 dead and 30 injured when troops surrounded the attackers. Other guerrillas put the death toll twice as high.

The guerrillas say they control most southwestern provinces, with the government hanging onto the provincial capital and a few districts.

Press review

Uprising must continue

KUWAIT, (KUNA): A Kuwaiti newspaper has lauded the 16-month-old Palestinian uprising against the Israeli occupation and strongly warned against US calls for ceasing such heroic phenomenon.

Al Rai Al Aam daily, in a front-page editorial on the 13th anniversary of the Land Day, called for protecting and uprisings as it is "the soul and body, the hope, the life and the promising future."

The intifada should continue and must be escalated, the paper added, because it is "the only Arab phenomenon in the region's modern history that accomplished in a mere single year material and moral victories that have never achieved by all Arab summits and wars."

The US, which tries to bring the uprising to an end, is the country that provided political, military and economic support to Israel which enabled the Israelis to occupy the Arab land for over 20 years, it went on.

"Beware the trap," the daily warned, stressing that the uprising has been the only effective and serious Arab action against the Zionist occupiers."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1512 — Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I and Swiss join Holy League against France.

1536 — Malmö, Sweden, surrenders to Denmark's King Christian III.

1559 — Peace treaty is signed at Cateau-Cambrésis between England and France.

1580 — Seventh war of religion breaks out in France.

1595 — Spain's King Philip II undertakes to aid Earl of Tyrone's rebellion in Ireland.

1667 — France's King Louis XIV signs defensive league of the Rhine with Münster, Neuburg, Brunswick, Hesse-Cassel, Bavaria and Sweden.

1699 — British admiral Benbow is sent to West Indies to gain reparations from Spain for destruction of British ships at Darien.

1801 — British fleet under Horatio Nelson is sent to Denmark because of Danish action on Elbe River and is victorious off Copenhagen.

1903 — Britain and France refuse to support construction of Baghdad railway.

1917 — US President Woodrow Wilson summons special session of Congress to declare war upon Germany.

1937 — South Africa prohibits political activity by foreigners in South-West Africa.

1947 — UN Security Council appoints US as trustee for Pacific Islands formerly under Japanese mandate. Britain refers Palestine question to United Nations.

1964 — Yemen charges Britain with air attacks on its territory.

1986 — Terrorist bomb rips hole in TWA jetliner over southern Greece, and blast blows a man, woman and child out of the plane to their deaths.

1988 — Iraq claims its forces killed thousands of Iranian troops and overran bases of Kurdish rebels in mountainous northeast.



Fahd (left) and Mubarak waving to thousands of cheering Egyptians in Ismailia.

Egypt back in good graces

No Arab summit without Cairo

By William C. Mann

CAIRO, April 1, (AP): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia returned home Friday after a five-day visit sealing Egypt's "welcome back" to the Arab world following nearly nine years as an outcast for its separate peace with Israel.

Fahd promised that Egypt "will be the first to attend" the next Arab summit — the last one it attended was in 1977. He also called Egypt indispensable to effective joint action by the Arabs.

Thus, Fahd admitted that not even Saudi Arabia carries the weight with fellow Arabs of the region's central military and political anchor, Egypt.

For the monarch's visit, thousands of Egyptians in Cairo and three other important northern cities turned out to cheer and wave pictures of Fahd and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Mubarak took Fahd on a train ride through the Nile River Delta as people lined the tracks, an honour bestowed on no foreign head of state since US President Richard Nixon in 1974.

On Friday, there was another tumultuous scene outside the 1,000-year-old Al Azhar mosque, the centre of Islamic theology, as hundreds flocked to see the two leaders arrive for mid-day prayers.

The stated purpose of the first visit of a Saudi monarch to Egypt since 1974 was to discuss positions on Middle East peace that Mubarak will take next week during an official visit to the United States. The Egyptian leader already had held co-ordination

sessions with Jordan's King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat.

But politically, for Cairo, the most important outward result of Fahd's visit seemed to be his pledge to reactivate Egypt in the Arab League, which observed its 44th anniversary on March 22.

Mubarak began the week by receiving a pledge from Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen — colleagues in the purportedly apolitical Arab Co-ordinating Council formed in February — that either Egypt attends the next summit, or they won't.

Arab League members froze Egypt's participation in April 1979 to punish President Anwar Sadat for making peace with Israel. All but three of the 17 members broke relations, and the league's headquarters was moved from Cairo to the Tunisian capital, Tunis.

The Egyptian-Israeli treaty remains a cornerstone of Cairo's foreign policy, and nearly all Arab countries have restored relations with Egypt.

Fahd began his visit the day after the treaty's 10th anniversary, which went unmarked in the Cairo press.

From Egypt's point of view, Fahd was the prize of a stream of Arab officials who have come since the league decided in November 1987 that it was up to individual states to decide their Egyptian policy.

The King told Egyptian newspaper editors Thursday night that he expects to host the Arab League's next regular summit after the

holy month Ramadan, which ends in early May.

"Saudi Arabia will be attending," he told Egyptian newspaper editors, "and so will Egypt... led by Mubarak."

In an even stronger statement, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said Friday:

"We believe the next Arab summit cannot be held unless Egypt attends. The first item on the agenda of this summit must be Egypt's return to the Arab League... We consider this matter final."

A joint communique that Saud signed with his Egyptian counterpart, Esmat Abdel Meguid, lauded the Egyptians:

"The Saudi side affirmed that Egypt's presence within the Arab group is an indispensable reinforcement of effective joint Arab action."

Egypt's return to Arab good graces, despite the peace treaty, reflects some astute moves by Mubarak since he replaced Sadat, who was assassinated in October 1981.

Mubarak upgraded Sadat's supply of weaponry and ammunition to Iraq in its war with Iran. Egypt was among the Iraq's most faithful suppliers by the time a truce ended the war last August.

In June 1982, when Fahd's elder brother King Khalid died suddenly, Mubarak made a low-key visit to Riyadh to pay his respects, despite the lack of official relations.

Mubarak's delicate handling of this situation was highly regarded in an Arabic culture which puts great stock in symbols.

World pressure mounts on Israel

By Patrick Worsnip

LONDON, (Reuters): International pressure is piling up to convince a defiant Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that he cannot stall much longer: directly or indirectly, he has to talk to the PLO.

The drive to get a Middle East peace process started is moving into a critical phase as the administration of US President George Bush settles down in the wake of major concessions by the PLO on terms for a settlement with Israel.

Shamir will meet Bush in the White House next Thursday. His visit will be sandwiched between those of the two leading moderate Arab leaders — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who sees Bush on Monday, and King Hussein of Jordan, due on May 2.

No one expects a showdown next week between Israel and the United States, which has long been the Jewish state's principal backer, reluctant to apply more than the gentlest pressure on what it sees as a strategic ally as well as friend.

"The administration will not press Shamir at this juncture. But I believe it will change its view in the coming months. By this time next year there will be a peace process in progress," predicts Joyce Starr, a Washington-based Middle East expert.

Shamir and his supporters say they will not negotiate with the PLO, which they maintain is merely masking a long-standing aim to destroy Israel behind new talk of peace.

But latest opinion polls show a majority of both Israelis and American Jews believe Israel should sit down with the PLO, provided the organisation abstains from terrorism, a view now clearly shared by US leaders.

Signs that Washington could soon turn up the heat on Israel came this week from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who said in Morocco that a key condition for Middle East talks was "the influence and resolve of the United States with Israel."

"From my discussions with President Bush, I believe that this will be forthcoming," she added.

Thatcher herself urged Israel to explore the views of its opponents — a clear reference to talks with the PLO.

The 12-nation European Economic Community has intensified its call for an international conference to settle the Middle East problem.

Three EEC foreign ministers met PLO chairman Yasser Arafat in January, and French President Francois Mitterrand announced this week, to the dismay of Israel, that he would meet Arafat this year. Canada too, a staunch supporter of Israel, set up diplomatic contacts with the PLO this week.

Interest

The Soviet Union, meanwhile, has also signalled increased interest in the Middle East with a major tour of the region by Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in February.

Moscow is moving towards restoring relations with Israel, severed in 1967, and appears to be qualifying its support for hardline Syria. The effect of its moves has been to come closer to West European positions, increasing the international union.

All recognise, however, that the only voice that really counts is that of the United States, which severely jolted Israel by its decision in December to start talks with the PLO after Arafat said he was renouncing terrorism.

In these talks, conducted through the US ambassador in Tunis where the bulk of the PLO is based, Washington has been urging small tension-reducing measures such as a scaling down of guerrilla attacks on Israeli military targets.

It has been calling for similar steps by Israel and demanded new ideas from Shamir next week on the way forward in the peace process.

In an interview with the New York Times published on Friday, the Israeli prime minister said he would propose elections in the Israeli-occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip for Palestinians to choose representatives to peace talks.

The PLO has rejected elections under Israeli occupation and has told the West Bankers to have no truck with Israeli plans to talk to "internal" Palestinians — those in the occupied territories as opposed to the "external" PLO.

Despite this, some Western diplomats say "the elections idea might" work, provided Israel accepted that those elected might be "closely linked" to the PLO and provided there was a clear statement of the ultimate aim of the process.

"There must be linkage. The Israelis or the Americans would have to set out what it would lead to," one diplomat said. "What isn't going to work is to say: 'Let's have elections and see what happens...'"

The United States differs from the EEC and the Soviet Union in opposing a UN-sponsored international conference, at least as a way of starting talks, because of Israeli hostility. It proposes to start with direct talks between Israel and the Arabs, with perhaps a conference later.

But Washington shares the general view that, sooner or later, Israel may have to talk to the PLO, even though analysts do not expect US leaders to press the point next week.

"If you can't have direct negotiations that are meaningful, that do not involve negotiations with the PLO... we would then have to see negotiations between Israelis and representatives of the PLO," Secretary of State James Baker told a congressional committee recently.

Aoun leads Lebanon into a storm by seeking Syria's expulsion

By Peter Smerdon

NICOSIA, (Reuters): Lebanese Christian Army chief Michel Aoun, by vowing to drive 25,000 Syrian troops from his country, has steered Lebanon into a storm since it entered its 15th year of civil war.

Few people believe Major-General Aoun with 15,000 Lebanese soldiers can end Syrian military involvement in the country, diplomats and Lebanese analysts said.

The worst round of Christian-Muslim fighting in five years erupted on March 14, after Aoun blockaded illegal ports that provided feuding militias with much of their funds.

He heated up after the 54-year-old Christian chief vowed to drive out the Syrians, even if it meant flattening the capital.

Artillery duels intensified between

Syrian gunners and their militia allies and mainly-Christian troops loyal to Aoun, killing at least 90 people and wounding nearly 400.

But diplomats said the threats from Aoun should not be taken literally. His vitriol was a bid to rally international support.

Syria sent its first troops into Lebanon in 1976 as a peacekeeping force at the request of the then Christian President Suleiman Franjeh a year after fighting erupted between Palestinians, then a powerful force in the country, and right-wing Christian militias.

The civil war subsequently turned into a struggle for political reform to give the majority Muslims a greater say in the Christian-dominated political system.

"Aoun is trying to internationalise the conflict with press conferences, to get other powers to arrange a peace," a West-

tern diplomat in Beirut said. "It is an adventure with unpredictable results."

An analyst close to Aoun, who heads an interim military administration vying for power with a Syrian-backed and Muslim-led cabinet, said he remained a soldier who saw events in black and white instead of the grey shades of politicians.

"Aoun believes a solution is being cooked in the Middle East and only agreement between the superpowers can put the flames out. The Christian military machine is his way to get involved."

Appointed to lead an interim government by Amin Gemayel minutes before the former president ended his term last year without a successor, Aoun believes his fractured Army is essential to build an independent Lebanon free from war.

He is also convinced that only the

Army and a strong central government with international support can rid Lebanon of the foreign influences he blames for fuelling the conflict.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said in a magazine interview earlier this week Syria would withdraw after the Lebanese managed to agree amongst themselves and produced a viable government and military force.

In challenging Syria, the dominant foreign power broker in much of Lebanon since French troops left both countries in 1946, Aoun has received military and political support from Iraq.

Relieved of its eight-year war against Iran by a ceasefire last August, Iraq sees Aoun as a means to confound and hit its arch-enemy Syria without pitching itself into the Lebanese quagmire, diplomats say.

In doing so it has become the latest in a

line of foreign powers, including Israel which invaded Lebanon in 1982 to evict the Palestinians, to attempt to expand their regional influence by helping Lebanon's Christians in a crisis.

But the record of long-term success for such enterprises is poor at best and Syria's interest in Lebanon is unparalleled.

Even before becoming militarily involved, Syria sympathised with Muslim demands for reforms of the political system, which collapsed last year and left the country with no president, two governments and a paralysed Parliament.

"Syria considers itself Lebanon's stepfather," an Arab diplomat commented. An official newspaper in Damascus accused Aoun on Saturday of wanting war with Syria and again denounced his government as illegal.

Tunisian election tests strength of Islamic movement

Polls will be fair, promises Ben Ali after opposition allegations

By Jonathan Wright

TUNIS, (Reuters): Up to 2.7 million Tunisians vote today in parliamentary elections widely seen as a test of the strength of the Islamic movement which helped to topple former President Habib Bourguiba in November 1987.

The elections are the first since President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali removed Bourguiba from power on grounds of senility and promised to open up the political system to alternative ideas.

The ruling party, now known as the Democratic Constitutional Union (RCD), has controlled all seats in the Chamber of Deputies (Parliament) since Bourguiba led Tunisia to independence from France in 1956.

Vote-rigging

Multi-party elections were held in 1981 and 1986 but Tunisian officials have since admitted that Bourguiba ordered widespread vote-rigging.

Ben Ali has repeatedly promised that his elections will be fair and opposition parties say abuses by some regional officials have not yet invalidated the poll as a whole.

Seven recognised parties, ranging from communists through Arab nationalists to economic liberals, are contesting the elections.

But the main interest lies in the performance of Islamic militants, thinly disguised as independents, standing in 20 of the 25 electoral districts.

"They have lots of money and they are very much there, right across the country," Foreign Minister Abdelhamid Escheikh said in an interview published yesterday.

Bourguiba refused to give the Islamic movement a place in political life and thousands of people were arrested or went into exile in the 1980s.

Ben Ali moved against Bourguiba after the ageing president ordered Islamic leader Rached Ghannouchi to be retired and sentenced to death on charges of plotting to overthrow him.

Appeal

The new President released the militants and sought to undermine their appeal by rehabilitating Islam. He put the call to prayer back on radio and television, reopened the ancient Zitouna Mosque in Tunis for Islamic studies and set up a new government department for religious affairs.

At the start of the two-week election campaign, the RCD apparently thought this record would be sufficient to win the religious vote for its candidates.

But, with the Islamic star in the ascendant, the RCD went on the offensive, accusing the independents of hiding their real intentions under a cloak of

moderation.

"One language, hard and dogmatic, for the members and the close circles of cadres and another language, modern and tolerant, for public opinion," said the government newspaper La Presse in a front-page editorial yesterday.

The RCD, joined by the smaller leftist parties, said the Islamic candidates really wanted to impose sharia (Islamic law), reintroduce polygamy, which Bourguiba banned, and install an anti-democratic theocracy through the ballot box.

"We can detect the beginnings of a new barbarism which everyone is duty-bound to denounce and resist," said La Presse.

Rebuke

Ben Ali, in a keynote election address yesterday, said religion was for everyone and no group could claim a religious monopoly.

In an indirect rebuke to the Islamic movement tomorrow, Ben Ali said:

"Using religion to score points is unacceptable. No group has a monopoly on it. Religion belongs to the nation and to everyone. Good deeds alone distinguish one Muslim from another."

Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche, in a speech this week said, "The imam (Muslim prayer leader) must not, on pain of violating religious law, interfere in

any secular question on which believers are divided."

But Sheikh Mohamed Lakhrou, Islamic candidate in a Tunis constituency said in an interview, "Islam is an inseparable whole. It embraces all aspects of human life, so there can be no dividing line between religion and the state."

Believers

The RCD has accused the Islamic movement of posing as the only true believers standing in the elections and of using democracy as a means to preach anti-democratic ideas.

Escheikh said: "We were forced to respond to (their) provocations. When someone describes your list (of candidates) as the devil's list, that's a imported slogan which has nothing Tunisian about it."

Ghannouchi, who is not himself standing, said the virulent campaign against the independents was reminiscent of the Bourguiba era and gave reason to believe the government might retreat from its reforms.

The RCD is still expected to win the overwhelming majority of the 141 seats in Parliament but Tunisians would be surprised if no opposition candidates are elected.

The first results are expected late this evening or early on tomorrow morning.

Kuwait trade volume dips

Gloom prevails in market

THE Alshall Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 37.42 points with a decrease of 0.40 points — 1.06 per cent — from last week's average. The Alshall index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 70.74 points with a decrease of 0.75 point — 1.05 per cent — for the same period, according to Alshall Economic Consultants' weekly market review.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 16.62 million shares at a daily average of 3.32 million shares with a decrease of 53 per cent from the previous week's daily average of 7.09 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 5.16 million shares at a daily average of 1.03 million shares with a decrease of 35 per cent from last week's daily average of 1.59 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD5.20 million at a daily average of KD1.040 million, a decrease of 60 per cent from last week's daily average of KD 2.632 million. The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD 0.374 million at a daily average of KD 0.075 million, a decrease of 10 per cent from last week's daily average of KD 0.083 million.

Week

Market performance resumed its weak performance after a relatively active week which followed the decision of the Stock Exchange committee to cancel the minimum and maximum levels of share prices, the decision to allow trading outside the trading hall under certain conditions and the announcement of issuing a new legislation for investment and real estate funds.

The total number of companies that have distributed dividends in the Kuwaiti shares market has reached 25 out of 44 (57 per cent) of the listed companies. As for total companies that have distributed dividends in the non-Kuwaiti market, the number rose to 3 out of 7 (43 per cent) of total listed companies.

Thirteen companies have distributed stock dividends in the Kuwaiti stock market which constitutes around 52 per cent of total companies that have declared their financial positions to this date.

This percentage is assumed to be very high compared to the percentages of the previous two years. "We believe that interventions aiming at raising share prices, such as allowing companies to buy their own shares or distributing stock dividends, or performing stock splits together with allowing free dealing outside the dealing hall, will only lead to short-term results. This will also delay the needed solution and would affect the interest of the market as well as the investors."

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector had the lead at 59 per cent of total trading against 66 per cent last week. The Commercial Bank led at 37.5 per cent, followed by The National Bank of Kuwait at 16 per cent and Kuwait Finance House at 15 per cent.

The Services Sector came second at 21 per cent, of which Mobile Telephone Systems led at 61 per cent, followed by Kuwait Commercial Markets at 23 per cent, and Public Warehousing at 16 per cent.

The investment sector came third at 17 per cent of which National Investments had the lead at 71 per cent, followed by Kuwait Pearl Investments at 16 per cent and Commercial Facilities at 6 per cent.

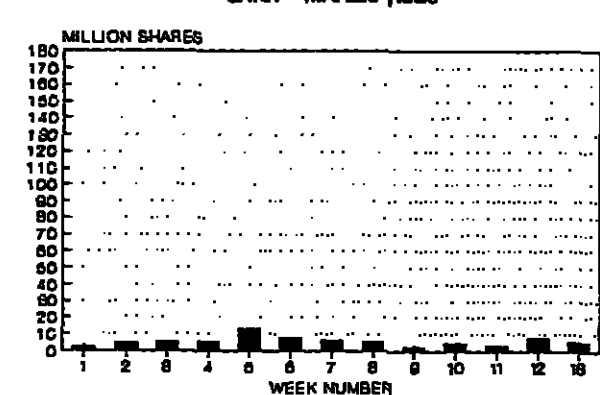
For the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Coast Investment and Development Company had the lead at 49 per cent, followed by Bahrain International Bank at 40 per cent and Arabian General Investment (SHUAA) at 9 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

Wednesday 22/03/89
Wednesday 22/03/89 points

NON-KUWAITI SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES

WEEKLY TRADING VOLUME FROM
JAN 1 - MAR 29, 1989



Banking Sector			
The National Bank	106.62	106.62	—
The Gulf Bank	31.07	31.07	—
The Commercial Bank	23.52	23.52	—
Al Ahli Bank	27.87	27.39	0.48
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	27.63	30.26	-2.63
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	27.43	28.29	-0.86
Burgan Bank	26.26	26.26	—
Kuwait Finance House	70.03	70.86	-0.82
Sector Index	43.92	44.28	-0.36
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	25.71	25.71	—
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	17.87	17.87	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	69.05	73.02	-3.97
IFA	37.50	41.18	-3.68
Commercial Facilities	118.75	120.00	-1.25
National Investments	66.67	70.59	-3.92
Kuwait Investment Proj.	86.52	88.76	-2.25
Sector Index	38.00	38.88	-0.88
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	36.48	38.05	-1.58
Gulf Insurance Co.	27.69	27.69	—
Al Ahleia Insurance Co.	47.74	47.74	—
Warba Insurance Co.	58.42	58.42	—
Sector Index	37.18	38.01	-0.83
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	17.59	17.59	—
United Realty	6.03	6.14	-0.11
National Real Estate	38.22	38.22	—
Sector Index	14.14	14.21	-0.06
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	11.59	11.59	—
Refrigeration Indust.	83.45	83.45	—
Gulf Cables	110.87	109.73	1.13
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	67.56	71.11	-3.56
Sector Index	29.96	30.00	-0.04
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	166.32	166.32	—
Kuwait Cinema Co.	8.56	8.56	—
Public Warehousing	60.61	64.65	-4.04
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	36.83	34.99	1.84
Mobile Telephone Syst.	271.43	280.95	-9.52
Sector Index	61.93	53.57	-8.36
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	48.41	48.41	—
United Fisheries	9.21	9.21	—
Kuwait United Poultry	83.61	83.61	—
Kuwait Food Co.	70.11	68.97	1.15
Sector Index	42.46	42.25	0.20
Overall Index	37.42	37.82	-0.40

Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index

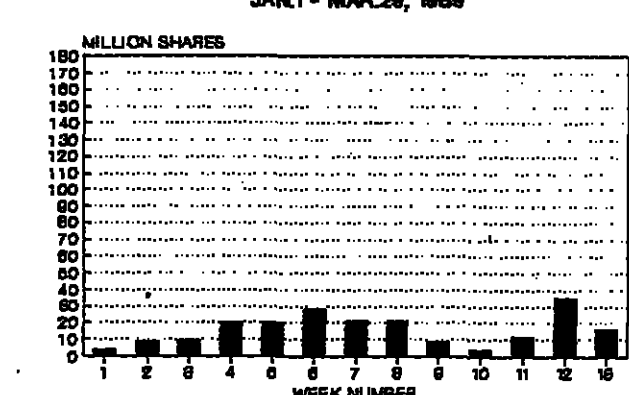
	Wednesday 23/03/89	Wednesday 22/03/89	Change points
First Gulf Bank	144.74	144.74	
Bahrain Internat. Bank	88.28	89.66	-1.38
Bahrain M. East Bank	98.71	98.71	
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	85.71	86.67	-0.95
Arabian Gen. Inv. (SHUAA)	49.24	50.00	-0.76
Umm Al Quain Cement	16.50	16.87	-0.37
Gulf Medical Projects	20.83	20.83	
Total Index	70.74	71.49	-0.75

—Base period 31/12/1983.

—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

KUWAITI SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES

WEEKLY TRADING VOLUME FROM
JAN 1 - MAR 29, 1989



Kuwait dinar rates firm as Saudi riyal deposits steady

KUWAIT, April 1, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates firm in quiet trade today after an announcement by the Central Bank it would seek an extra 30 million dinars (\$103 million) at a rollover this week of treasury bills.

The 100 million dinar (\$345 million) offering of 91-day treasury bills for Wednesday issue, will roll over a previous issue of 70 million (242 million).

Dealers said one-month rose 1/4 point from Thursday and two months 1/8 point, while three months to one year were unchanged, resulting in a uniform yield curve for all the fixed rates of 9-1/2 to nine per cent.

Most activity was reported in one-month maturities also firm. Overnight traded at seven after trading at two on Thursday. Tomorrow's next rose to seven six from trades of five and spot-next rose to nine eight from trades of six.

Rate

The Central Bank adjusted its dinar to dollar exchange rate to 0.29050/60 from 0.29037/47 on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal inter-bank deposits were steady in a liquid and typically tight market, with many offshore players sidelined due to the European weekend.

Dealers said business focused on short-dated funds as traders covered positions. Tomorrow's next deal at 10-7/8, 3/8 per cent while spot-next and one-week were quoted 1/4 point up on Thursday's levels at 9-3/4, 1/4 per cent.

Gulf banks are shut during the Muslim Friday weekend. Fixed periods were little changed, with the one-month put at 9-7/8, 5/8 per cent, three-months at 10-3/16, 10 and six at 10-5/8, 7/16.

The spot riyal was steady at 3.7504/09 to the dollar.

Currency rates

KUWAIT, April 1, (KUNA): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait, today.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.29025	0.29140
Sterling	0.48921	0.4914
Dm.	0.15292	0.15361
S. fr.	0.17448	0.17527
F. fr.	0.045316	0.045517
It. lira	0.00020851	0.00020948
Japan yen	0.0021856	0.0021951
Bh. dinar	0.76968	0.77314
UAE dh.	0.079022	0.079357
S. riyal	0.077379	0.077706
Q. riyal	0.076995	0.080054
O. riyal	0.75370	0.75707

West German import prices surge

Dollar still expected to appreciate short-term

THE dollar surged to a seven-month high against the deutschemark this week despite currency market intervention by the world's main central banks. The US dollar's strong rise sent sterling sharply down. However, the dollar failed to break through the DM1.9000 level, which is presumed to be the top of the G7's desired range, and the US unit closed at DM1.8955, according to NBK's weekly market review.

There were several economic releases this week including the leading indicators (the government's main barometer of future economic trends), home sales and factory orders all indicating that sectors of the economy are weakening.

The leading indicator showed the first decline since September when it also fell 0.3 per cent which is significant because this index is supposed to show the direction of the economy three to six months in the future.

Treasury bonds increased modestly helped by the resilience of the dollar but were later depressed by a surge in oil prices while equities also benefited with the Dow Jones closing up 17.68 at 2,275.54.

However, the string of daily gains in the equity markets was ended by the dollar's decline following further central bank intervention.

The dollar ended the week at DM1.89 and yen 132.3.

New home sales fell 9.4 per cent in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 626,000 units, the lowest level since 576,000 units in January 1988 and the largest drop since a 9.5 per cent drop in November 1988. January sales received a

downward revision creating a 2.5 per cent increase rather than 5 per cent.

Leading indicators fell 0.3 per cent in February following a 0.9 per cent rise in January and a 0.6 per cent increase in December. This was a slightly lower fall than the market had anticipated.

Factory orders (a measure of the health of the manufacturing sector) fell 2.3 per cent in February following a 1.2 per cent decline in January and a 4.7 per cent increase in December.

Although central bank intervention and the proximity of the Group of Seven nation's meeting were sufficient to stop the US unit's recent bull run, the dollar is still expected to appreciate short-term. This is because interest rates are unlikely to decline until there are positive indications of a definite slowdown in economic growth and the next important pointer in this respect will be next Friday's unemployment and non-farm payroll data for March.

Trading ranges for the coming week are: DM1.86-1.91 and yen 129-135.

In UK the current account deficit for February was a larger than expected £1.7 billion following a revised £1.59 billion gain in January. This was the third worst monthly level on record. After an initial negative reaction to the figures, when sterling fell to around \$1.6825 and DM3.1850 the financial markets recovered with equity prices rallying, hel-

ped by favourable developments on the international front, whilst government bonds and sterling remained steady.

The recent CBI survey was rather bearish indicating manufacturing output growth is beginning to slow but there is no sign of production being switched to exports.

The pound has since been moving lower in line with the dollar and ended the week at £/ \$1.69 and DM3.19.

West Germany's MO money supply growth surged to an annual 7.3 per cent in February from 6.4 per cent in January. In addition, West German import prices rose 5.9 per cent in February from a year earlier and 0.3 per cent from January.

Speculation The most recent data release indicates that West Germany's cost of living index rose 0.2 per cent in March from February and advanced 2.7 per cent from March 1988. This figure suggests that fears of surging inflation may be slightly exaggerated but there is still much speculation that further interest rate increases are in store.

However, West German economists continue to forecast inflation in 1989 will average 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent, well above last year's average rate of 1.2 per cent.

There were numerous data releases this week including the following:

Consumer spending growth slowed to an inflation-adjusted 1.1 per cent in January from 3 per cent in December.

Industrial output climbed 5.1 per cent in February from a year earlier but fell 1.4 per cent on a seasonally adjusted basis from January.

Economy minister quits as inflation heats up

Currency weakens

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, April 1, (AP): Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille resigned yesterday in the face of rising inflation, a devalued currency, pending national elections and pressure from his own party as well as opposition parties.

Meanwhile, the resignations of Treasury Minister Mario Brodersohn, Central Bank president Jose Luis Machinea, Secretary of Economic Co-ordination Adolfo Canitrot and Secretary of Domestic Commerce Carlos Bonvecchi were pending. All were submitted "to ease the work of President Raul Alfonsin," Brodersohn said.

Sourrouille's trip to Washington for talks next week with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund was cancelled. Lopez said the government might declare Monday a bank holiday to give the new economic team an extra day to organize.

Sourrouille will be replaced by Juan Carlos Pugliese. A former economy minister and the leader of the ruling radical Civic Union's bloc in the house of deputies, Lopez said.

Pugliese, 74, would serve through Dec 10, when Alfonsin's six-year term ends and the winner of the presidential election set for May 14 is inaugurated.

Sourrouille refused to answer reporters' questions as he left Alfonsin's official residence in the Buenos Aires suburb of Olivos. Pugliese confirmed that Sourrouille stepped down, but otherwise made no statement.

Argentina's economy has floundered under Alfonsin. Despite two austerity plans and massive foreign borrowing, the budget deficit has topped 12 per cent of gross domestic product, and inflation has been triple-digit in four of the past five years.

Pugliese is Alfonsin's third minister of the economy.

The latest anti-inflation plan was implemented last August. Its centerpiece was voluntary wage and price controls, reduced government spending, interest rates that were positive in real terms, and the sale of US dollars by the Central Bank to prop up the austral.

Takeshita faces anger over scandal, new tax

TOKYO, April 1, (Reuters): Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, already battered by charges of government corruption, angered Japanese consumers today by introducing a sales tax on most daily necessities.

The newspaper Asahi Shimbun called on Takeshita to resign both because of the three per cent sales tax and the Recruit financial scandal.

"I don't understand why they had to tax almost everything, like bread and milk," said housewife Keiko Hasegawa. "All I know is I am suddenly having to pay a lot more for everything, and I am fed up."

Introduction of the tax, levied on necessities such as food, clothing and train fares, came a day after Takeshita admitted receiving a hefty donation from the Recruit company.

The job placement and telecommunications firm is sus-

pected of handing out shares, gifts and contributions to more than 100 public figures in return for political and business favours.

So far, 13 businessmen and senior bureaucrats have been arrested in the scandal, which has already forced three cabinet ministers to resign.

Despite the pressure on Takeshita, political commentator Masaya Ito said in an interview with President magazine he believed the Japanese leader would hang on at least until Upper House elections in July.

"Takeshita is a very obstinate man," Ito said. "He can take many punches. A drop in popularity is not enough for him to step down."

Only a disastrous election would convince Takeshita to step down, Ito said. Professor Toshihiko Hara of Tokai University said Take-



Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita is helped by his wife, Naoko, in buying a French-made silk necktie at a department store in Tokyo to lend support to the sales tax which went into effect nationwide yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

shita's admission that Recruit had given 20 million yen (\$154,000) to his personal political fund was damaging, but was unlikely to drive him from office.

"Every Japanese knows about these political donations — it's politics as usual," Hara told Reuters. "We have long since stopped being shocked when we hear such things."

Workers continue protests in Ulsan

SEOUL, South Korea, April 1, (AP): Workers and students fought police in the industrial city of Ulsan for the second consecutive day today, protesting a police action that ended a prolonged strike at South Korea's largest shipyard.

News reports said about 1,000 workers and students engaged in scattered protests today in the streets of Ulsan, about 250 kilometres (150 miles) southeast of Seoul.

The state-run Korean Broadcasting system said riot police firing tear-gas charged the protesters, who responded with rocks and firebombs in hit-and-run battles.

Meanwhile, operations at Hyundai Heavy Industries in Ulsan remained slow, with the shipyard guarded by thousands of riot police, although more than half of its 22,000-member work force showed up for work today.

Riot police stormed the shipyard on Thursday in a land, sea and air attack and ended the strike that had left some 400

people injured since December. The police intervention triggered violent protests by sympathisers who accused the government of suppressing a free labour movement and protecting conglomerates at the cost of workers.

Thousands of radical students battled riot police on Thursday and yesterday in Seoul and other cities, denouncing the police action in Ulsan.

The Ulsan shipyard is owned by the Hyundai Group, one of the largest conglomerates in South Korea, which produces cars, ships, electronics, steel and other products.

Hyundai's trouble began on Dec 12, when militant workers broke away from a company-sanctioned union and organised a separate union, demanding pay hikes and better working conditions.

Hyundai refused to recognise (the new union, and its operations had been crippled often by violent clashes between pro-management and pro-union workers.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 01/04/89

B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Lotus Dawn	GH & Q	2447815
5	Ibn Al Atheer	KSA	4843150
6	Atlantic Express	Sager	2432692
15	Iris Everett	ISA	2441860
20	Kaifu	ISA	2441860

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT

ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1:4	Buzet	M. Bahar	2433881
2:4	Hual Trader	A.M. Bahar	2459891
3:4	Lanka Seedavi	GH & Q	4347815

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT

B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
11	Leresti	Algh Barwil	4842988
12	Lok Vivek	RSMS	2423642

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT

ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1:4	Sparkle Sun	ISA	2441860
1:4	Kongu Maru	ISA	2441860
2:4	Lotos Dawn	Al Kamal	2425437
2:4	Tor Bay	KMMC	2419814
2:4	Materlinck	Rashed	2422026
4:4	Tackler Dosinia	Al Kamal	2425437
4:4	Capetan Alexandros	Algh Barwil	4842988
4:4	K.I.A. Al Waleed	UASC	4843150
9:4	Ibn Al Roomi	UASC	4843150
4:4	Drvar	M.A. Bahar	2433881

COMPILED BY: Alghamir Barwil Shipping Co. Kuwait, Tel: 4842988/4843988 Ext. 3628/3646 Fax No. 4845712

KUWAIT

							-CONT. MARINE							0.280	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
							-K.S.H.REP.CO							0.045	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
SERVICES SECTOR																							
BANK SECTOR							P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE											
-NATIONAL BANK							0.930	0.920	0.920	0.920	650000	4											
-GULF BANK							0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	120000	5											
-COMMERCIAL BK							0.000	0.260	0.260	0.255	50000	3											
-AHLI BANK							0.290	0.295	0.295	0.295	10000	1											
-B.K.M.E.B.							0.315	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-K.R.E.B.							-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-BISHAM BANK							0.265	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-K.F.HOUSE							0.425	0.430	0.430	0.430	240000	9											
FOOD SECTOR																							
INVESTMENT SECTOR																							
-KWT INV. CO.							0.140	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-K.F.T.C.I.C.							0.210	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-K.I.T.C.							0.104	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-CON.FACILITIES							0.475	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-AHLIAH INV.							0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-I.F.A.							0.051	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-INV. PEARL KWT							0.088	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-NATIONAL INV.							0.072	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-KWT PROJECTS.							0.079	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
NON-KWT SECTOR																							
INSURANCE SECTOR																							
-KWT INSURANCE							0.610	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-GULF INSURANCE							0.360	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-AHLIA INS. CO.							0.540	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-WARBA INS. CO.							0.340	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
KUMAIT STOCK EXCHANGE																							
REAL EST SECTOR																							
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL																							
FINANCIAL SECTOR							P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE											
-GULF INTL INS.							0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-ARAB INT. CO.							0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-SHARJAH INS.							0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-GULF UNION INS.							0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-R.K.WHITE CMNT							0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-AJMAN CEMENT.							0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR																							
-NAT IND. CO.							0.550	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-KWT M.P. IND.							0.300	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-KWT CEMENT CO.							0.170	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-REF. IND. CO.							0.380	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-B-FUJAIH CENT							0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-C-SHARJAH CEMENT							0.010	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											
-D-GULF CEMENT							0.010	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----											

Who will inherit the crown of Monaco?

In the streets of this tiny modern Eden the world knows as the Principality of Monaco, there are rumours about Prince Albert and Princess Caroline.

By Silvio Piersanti

ONLY when the present is cloudless do people start worrying about the future and wondering how long the barometer needle will stay on "fine weather." That's what is going on today among the 30,000 lucky inhabitants of the tiny, modern Eden the world knows as the Principality of Monaco.

The last two generations of Monegasques have seen their beloved monarch, 65-year-old Prince Rainier, turn their fairy-tale realm into a rich, efficient, socially advanced miniature replica of a modern state. Poverty, strikes, crime, drug addiction, pollution and unemployment are all problems the Monegasques know only from reading the foreign news sections of the local papers. Invisible, magic barriers seem to protect Monaco from those world plagues.

But as Prince Rainier's hair grows whiter, rumours grow stronger that he is considering turning over the reins of power to his son Albert, 30.

What will happen when Prince Rainier steps down from the throne? Will avid sports fan and playboy Prince Albert be able to maintain this miracle of good government? Will Prince Albert choose a wife and first lady for the country worthy of his late mother, the unforgettable Princess Grace? And will the new princess push back into anonymity Prince Albert's sister Princess Caroline, who since her mother's death has so engaged the affections of her people that Monegasques like to think of her as the reigning princess?

The succession of the throne has always been a matter of paramount importance to Monaco because its very existence depends on it. If there is no male heir to the throne, the principality reverts to France, from whence it came. That what made the marriage of Prince Rainier and Grace Kelly and the quick arrival of children such important events.

And that is why, looking ahead, Europeans, and Monegasques in particular, speculate on when and whom Prince Albert will marry and, in turn, assure the permanence and stability of the House of Grimaldi. In Monaco itself, the ruling family is dinner conversation in every home, and every citizen is ready to talk about this, his favourite topic. Recently, in Monaco, I spent the better part of a week talking with a cross section of citizens about the succession.

"As things are now, we're all rich and happy. We have work, nice houses, pensions, at one hundred per cent of our salaries, a world-class hospital where we are treated for free. We have theaters, movies, concert halls, day care and schools for our children. And all without paying and taxes. If earthly paradise exists, it's here in Monaco," Francis Muschietto, owner of a prestigious group of restaurants in Monaco said.

"We are aware that we owe all this to our monarch, Prince Rainier. But some say he is tired and is considering abdication, which would be in favour of his son, Albert, according to our constitution. And they fear that Albert might not be up to the task. Prince Rainier has spoiled us. In forty years he has never made an error, either in his private or public life. Some of my fellow citizens worry that Prince Albert is seen a little too often with girls who change all the time and who are not always how can I say? princesslike. They also think that he spends too much time on sports. I personally see nothing to object to in his eternal student life, but it has made the majority of us accustomed to thinking of him as the country's child rather than as the country's father, as we all think of Prince Rainier.

While Prince Albert does not seem ready to replace his father either on the throne or in his subject's hearts, Princess Caroline appears to have absorbed all of her mother's glowing legacy.



Clockwise from top: Princesses Stephanie and Caroline; Prince Albert and Rainier at an official function; the royal sisters; and Caroline with her husband of five years Stefano Casiraghi and children Charlotte, Pierre and Andrea. She has taken her mother's place in the hearts of her subjects while sister Stefanie pursues a separate life in California, and Albert shows no sign of settling down.

"She's developed great self-confidence and style, and a charm that makes everyone adore her. Prince Rainier is obviously proud to have her at his side at all the royal ceremonies," added Monsieur Muschietto. "And some fellow citizens are wondering whether it wouldn't be wise to change our constitution to allow her to ascend to the throne."

"We have noticed lately, though," observed Catherine Beccaria, 55, the owner of a fashionable cafe in the center of Monte Carlo, "that Prince Rainier is trying to give more space to Prince Albert in official ceremonies, almost as if he wants to make it clear to all that only Albert is the heir to the throne."



"I heard that a group of super-faithful followers of Caroline's — a self-styled 'Monarchist Circle of Monaco' — has sent an appeal to Rainier asking him to change the constitution at least enough to allow an important official position for Caroline."

They worry that once Prince Albert ascends the throne and marries (I should say that in reverse order because it's well known around the palace that Rainier has no intention of stepping down until he sees his son married to a responsible woman), the wife will assume the right of all public functions reserved for the first lady, the duties that Princess Grace enjoyed.

They fear that would make Caroline practically disappear from the public scene. But I don't see why the constitution should be changed. I'm sure that Albert will know how to choose a woman worthy of the role of princess, as his father did. Remember, many citizens thought that a Hollywood star could never live up to her title. Albert will marry a

woman with great class who will be able to take care of the duties of first lady."

Jean Aussel, minister of state of Monaco, the second-ranking authority after Prince Rainier, says "There can be no possible misunderstanding that according to the constitution, Albert is the heir and it will be decided by Rainier alone what the right moment is. I don't believe he'll abdicate soon. He is still young and in great health. He loves his royal functions and knows people love him. And then his son is still too young, even though in an emergency he would know how to take over the reins with firmness."

Aussel points to a recent interview in the French newspaper Figaro in which Rainier was quoted as saying: "My son and I often speak about the moment when he'll have to succeed me on the throne. I give him certain dossiers, and that involves him each day more with reality. When I have the impression that he's well prepared to succeed me, I'll tell him. But I don't want to give any date for this event, because then life speeds up and becomes full of risks."

About the alleged "feud" over the throne between Caroline and Albert, Prince Rainier said: "Recently it was written that Princess Caroline hoped to supplant her brother as the head of the principality (principality) This is ridiculous and completely without foundation."

Would Princess Caroline really be happy to be relegated essentially to the role of housewife? Her immense popularity cost her a lot of her private life. She gave up vacations and many personal projects to attend official ceremonies and appear at her father's side as the country's first lady. Will she be willing to present this popularity to her brother's future wife as a wedding gift?

"I doubt it very much," Alice Giraud, a retired seamstress, says emphatically. "I don't think that Princess Caroline will easily accept the role of the housewife trapped in a golden cage."

Princess Stephanie previously realized that being the youngest child destined her to a "Cinderella" role, and immediately she tried to find her own identity away from the principality. Now she is a successful pop singer and a fashion designer. But Caroline pivoted her life exclusively within the narrow borders of Monaco. Between her own family duties and her official commitments, she developed a full, nicely balanced life.

"The very moment Albert marries, Caroline will find herself stripped of all her regal prerogatives and with nothing else to do but take care of her own family. It's hard to believe that she is not trying to lobby to maintain a good part of those prerogatives for which she devoted so much of her time."

"I think that Caroline would be the most worthy successor to Grace, and I'm sure that most of my fellow citizens share my feelings and my worries about the constitution, which will prevent her from being it (the successor) for the rest of her life. God help us," the aging seamstress concluded as she walked among the parade of Monegasques and tourists who filed by Grace's tomb in the cathedral, covering it with flowers.

"Grace is irreplaceable," said a young woman who declined to identify herself. "But our Princess Caroline is the most precious thing we inherited from her. I've signed an appeal in favour of change in our constitution that leaves Caroline to be our queen for the rest of her life, without interfering with Prince Albert's right to the throne."

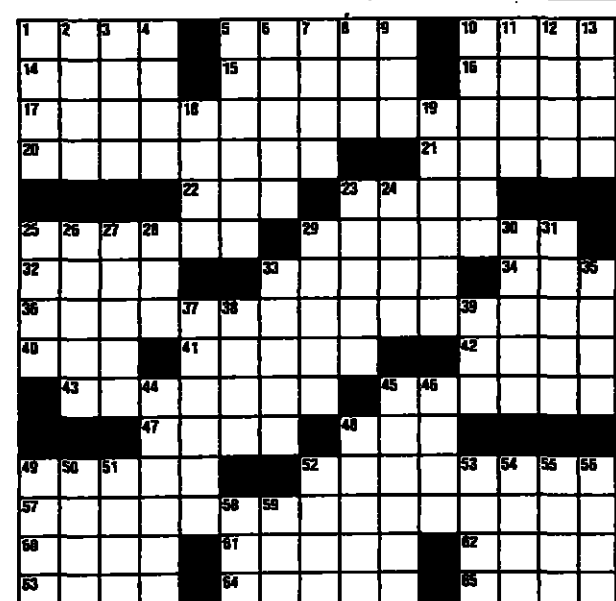
Pierre Carletti, 18, and Christian Prisco, 17, have a more pragmatic approach to the problem. "I don't blame Albert," Carletti said. "I'm young and I understand him. He likes to enjoy life, and his father has no intention of giving him the scepter until he gets serious and marries a woman Rainier approves of. I hope that he can prolong by a few more years his carefree life-style. I would be just like him."

"I don't think that in the end Caroline will mind," Prisco said. "She wants to have more children — four or five, in all, she has said — and she'll be able to devote all her time to them."

Roger Fouques, 79, a former croupier from Monte Carlo's casino: "It will never be possible to have a ruler better than ours." Maybe Caroline could rule with more maturity, but unlike Albert, she never studied finance or economics. Here you need an iron fist, because there are many who would like to get their hands on this gold mine. Once I heard the prince say, 'I'm no prince. I am the chairman of the board of an enterprise called Monaco'."

Jules Mathieu, 46, a real estate agent, the most upbeat view: "Rainier is a King Midas. Whatever he touches turns to gold. If there were a Nobel prize for good governing, no one could take it away from him. One day Albert will reign. But I honestly think that the later the better. Albert can keep enjoying life. Caroline can keep playing first lady, and all of us subjects can continue to make money by the pailful."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Marquand's sleuth
 - "A Bell for —"
 - Young salmon
 - Bates or Aida
 - Blunder
 - Confused
 - TV comic sings country?
 - Irretrievable
 - Rub out
 - Mine output
 - Compass
 - Woodland deities
 - Chider
 - Monster
 - Chik con —
 - Dinner item: Abbr.
 - "Dino" meets "Apocalypse Now"
 - Limb
 - Mountain nymph
 - Major
 - Ancient Greek
 - English county
 - Jeopardy
 - Charwoman's tool
 - Make into law
 - Marked with stripes
 - Henry Higgins in the "Temple of Doom"?
 - Rene's girlfriend
 - Down provider
 - Taj Mahal site
 - Turn's companion
 - With "The", a rock group
 - Pinkish-red
- DOWN**
- School subj.
 - Potpouri
 - Pack in tightly
 - First word of Poe's "The Raven"
 - Doubleday and Yokum
 - Use a diving rod
 - Literary collections
 - Napoleon's marshal
 - Table scrap
 - Coupled
 - Movie canine
 - Soaks flax
 - Martha of comedy
 - Swan genus
 - "Citizen Kane" director
 - Biting
 - European capital
 - Beverage
 - Ripeners
 - Vagabond
 - Desire
 - Lord of evil
 - "Tinker to — to"
 - Singer Della
 - Harsh, grating sound
 - Midge
 - Hollywood's Pat
 - Part of BA rod
 - Famed character
 - Fingerprint features
 - Charitable ones
 - Ready for business
 - Pinchpenny
 - Part of QED
 - Captain of The Nautilus
 - Military alliance of WWII
 - Adriatic resort
 - At a distance
 - African republic
 - Makes a mistake
 - June 6, 1944
 - Scarlet
 - The Grande

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

PIETTA SRA SITES
ONSET LAS INARI
STPATRICK SCRIPT
TOY RAGE DEHAN
CARO FER
SCARGE DEVALERA
TIBET ARTIE EXIAM
AREAL FLAIL ACTIA
ERAS RIND EPEES
LIMERICK SMELLS
ALE SEED
SNAIT PAAR STE
PHILS KILLARNEY
BAITIE INA LEONE
SWITTS TED DOWNS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
RUINED BY THE DOUBLE

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ J 2
♥ A Q
♦ K 8 7 6 3
♣ 10 9 6 2

WEST
♠ Q 9 8 7 5
♥ 10 7 6 2
♦ A 4
♣ A 5

EAST
♠ Void
♥ 9 8 5
♦ J 10 9 5
♣ K J 8 7 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A K 10 6 4 3
♥ K J 4 3
♦ Q 2
♣ Q

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♥ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Dbl Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♣
Beware of tipping your hand to declarer. On this deal from a national team championship, a West player who had represented the U.S. in international competition could not restrain himself—and suffered the consequences.

North was perhaps a trifle aggressive in the auction. In view of the partial misfit, a preference to two spades at his second turn might have been preferable, and certainly a pass of three spades would not have in-

voked anyone's ire. However, there was nothing wrong with the final contract—only the 5-0 trump split made it hazardous. Since West had no real expectation of beating four spades more than one trick, why he would double for a measly extra 100 points is beyond us.

Declarer won the heart opening lead in dummy. Had he had no help from the defenders, he would more than likely have taken a spade finesse at this point. Warned by the double that trumps were not lying well, declarer cashed the table's remaining high heart, then led the king of diamonds.

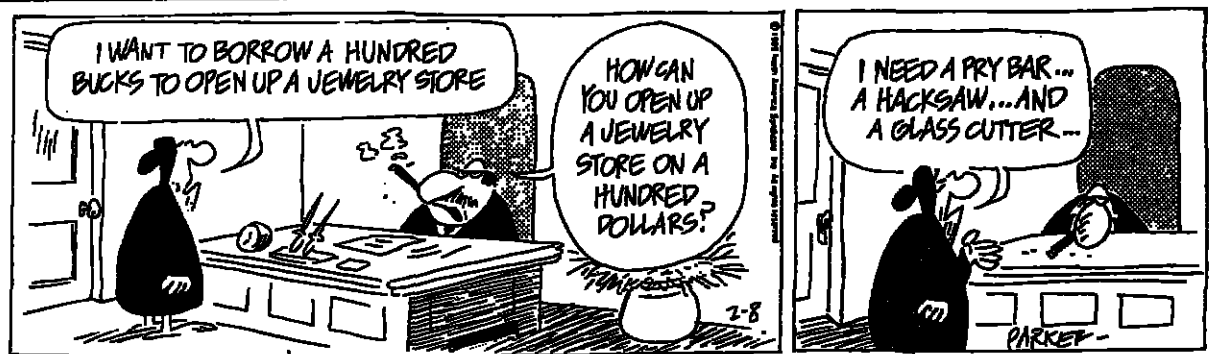
West took his minor-suit aces and continued with a club, which declarer ruffed. After cashing the diamond queen, he played off the king and jack of hearts. East's failure to ruff confirmed declarer's card-reading.

Both declarer and West were now down to nothing but five trumps each. A low spade toward the jack sealed West's fate. If he rose with the queen, declarer would be left with four winning trumps between his hand and dummy. But playing the seven proved no better. Dummy's jack won, and a trump, ducked to West, forced him to win and return a trump into declarer's A-K-10 tenace. So declarer lost only one trump trick and the minor-suit aces.



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will tend to miss a good opportunity but you will also be able to avoid a pitfall. There is no reason why you should not succeed provided only you try hard and do not expect too much. Avoid thinking only of yourself.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be able to use your commonsense to very good effect. You should not be too quick to draw conclusions. Try to take your mind off work for the day. Be objective.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

If you are invited you should not go empty-handed. Avoid complaining too much, try to make the best of things. Keep your wits very much about you. Be frank.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

This is a good day on which to meet your friends. You should not make any rash promises. Make sure you get enough exercise. Be truthful.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You should not allow some small disappointment to prey on you. Show just a little more goodwill towards others. Do not try to do too fast something you have only just learnt. Be hopeful.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be able to sort out a problem that has been confounding you. Take a little better care of your personal hygiene. Make sure you keep a balance between income and outgoings. Be selective.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will be able to get a lot of chores done today. However you should find time to relax. Do not do anything that might upset your stomach. Be moderate.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will not find it too easy to stay on good terms with a neighbor but you should try to do so. Make sure you do not eat more than you know you should. Show a little greater respect for your elders. Be firm.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Do not drive as though you were a racing driver. You should try to spend the day thinking of other things than work. Make sure you do not bore others. Be abstemious.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

Do not think that only you have had luck. You should try to catch up on some lost sleep, but do not haze the day away. Do not neglect your cultural interests. Your lucky numbers are 3 and 28. Be cordial.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

A friend of yours will appreciate your support and advice. Drive as though your life depended on it — it does. Avoid doing anything out of malice. You are all too liable to contradict yourself. Be wary.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will feel more like yourself today. You will know what is the right thing to do and how to do it. Make sure you are not being a nuisance. Be smart.

Cory to reconcile with Laurel?

PRESIDENT Aquino welcomed yesterday a reconciliation with her former political ally Vice-President Salvador Laurel as she urged government officials to work harder to improve the lives of the people.

In keeping with the observance of Holy Week, the President said that she is open to a reconciliation with Laurel.

"Well, I've always said I'm for reconciliation. I want to know how we will bring this about," Aquino.

The President's statement was in reaction to reports that Laurel has indicated a willingness to reconcile with her after a breakup over political and personal differences a few years ago.

Aquino and Laurel's breakup was worsened by the Vice-President's leadership of the opposition group Union for Nationalist Action



Salvador Laurel: willing to work with Aquino again (UNA).

It will be recalled that Mrs Aquino declined to talk privately with Laurel who wanted to convey to her a message from deposed President Ferdinand Marcos from his hospital bed in Honolulu. Aquino urged Laurel to reveal the message to the public instead.

Aquino and Laurel met and shook hands last Friday during the National Press Club's (NPC) "Gridiron Night" at the Philippine International Convention Centre (PICC).

The encounter raised speculations of a possible reconciliation.

Political observers said that an Aquino-Laurel reconciliation can help improve the country's political stability and bring back their partnership for the country's welfare.

Homeless Filipinos increasing

Over 10 million affected

By MA. ELENA ANG

MANILA, (PNP): The construction boom, which has seen the rise of towering condominiums and mega-shopping malls and is said to be an indicator of economic growth, hardly affects some 10 million Filipinos considered by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) as "homeless."

To call the 10 million "homeless," however, is putting it very simply. For the definition of a real home by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements — one "which provides protection from the elements, which has access to safe water and sanitation, which provides for secure tenure and personal safety, which is within easy reach of centres of employment, education and health care, and which is at cost that people and society can afford" — can easily add a few millions more to that category.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) estimates that the country's homeless families at 3.5 million families, or around 21 million individuals.

Among the country's urban households, about 60 per cent, and 70 per cent of Metro Manila families, do not own the land on which their houses stand. In addition, some 9.4 per cent of all urban poor households and 7.2 per cent of Metro Manila households have no tenure of their homes.

The urban poor who comprise the bulk of people badly in need of housing and "who

display the most dehumanizing effects of homelessness next only to the pavement dwellers and street people," are also on the rise. A joint survey in 1985 by the Metro Manila Commission and the National Housing Authority (NHA) showed that there are 1,943,817 squatters in Metro Manila and 3,344,048 more in other major cities of the country. With a yearly increase in squatting at 11 per cent, it is estimated that by the year 2000 more than half of Metro Manilans will be squatters.

This runaway housing problem has therefore put extreme pressure on government and private developers to ease the housing demand.

A National Shelter Programme (NSP), though powered by Executive Order 90 to pursue the goal of intensifying efforts "both by the government and the private sector, to produce, finance, deliver and improve shelter for all, especially for the lowest income groups" will have its hands full.

The government Housing and Urban Development Co-ordinating Council (HUDCC) projected last year's need for new houses at 445,000 (53 per cent of which are for rural areas).

For the period 1987-1992, this will mean a need for some 3.376 million new housing units. Government acknowledged it can only provide 40,000 houses or 30 per cent of the housing needs of the urban poor annually.

Not even a World Bank shelter loan of US\$160 million which is to be used to finance

the construction of 225,000 social housing units for the period 1988-1992 will significantly ease the burden of the poor.

The poor, losers in the recent US\$1.3 billion loan by the World Bank to the government in terms of denied funding for more schools, health centres, water supply, and sanitation facilities, and roads, bridges, ports and airports, understandably cannot afford the costs of housing.

SCAPS notes that while 80 per cent of total housing needs involve poor families, their poverty line incomes constrain them from affording the life-long dream of owning their homes.

With the present national poverty line of P3,282 per month, government statistics show that some 50.64 per cent of Metro Manila households and 86.09 per cent of families in metropolitan areas for priority development face this constraint.

NSP studies also show that the lowest 30 per cent bracket of the population in Metro Manila can afford to shell out P385 monthly for housing. The upper lower class constituting 30 per cent of the population can pay a maximum of P734. The middle class can pay P1,466 and the upper class, P8,087. These assessments are contradicted by studies made by the University of the Philippines Institute for Social Work and Community Development which says only three per cent of the urban poor family's budget is earmarked for housing amortization or rental. (Philippine News and Features).



Preserved for posterity: the Marcos dynasty

Book Review

High living in Manila

By Alan Rusbridger

The Marcos Dynasty, by Sterling Seagrave (Macmillan £16.95)

THE FULL inventory may never be made. Pairs of shoes (3,000); bras (500, one bullet-proof); jewels and gold (suitcases of — value \$10 million); art, miscellaneous (purchase price, \$40m — real value \$20m) — this much we know about.

But that was just the petty cash. The real booty is beyond the grasp of any agency, beyond the imaginings of any accountant, beyond any mortal dreams of avarice. There are 4,000 tons of gold bullion in somehow, somewhere; and billions upon billions of dollars in honeycombed vaults and accounts throughout the world. There are bucketfuls of pearls and diamonds; flats, apartment blocks, office blocks and boats. This much, at least, we suspect.

The story of Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos is a baroque story of avarice on a staggering scale. At the time of their hurried, undignified exit from Manila in 1986 they were probably the richest couple on earth — and may well remain so. Marcos is reported last year to have offered Cory Aquino \$5 billion in cash to be allowed home: the sum was regarded as derisory.

Marcos was not the most ruthless Third World dictator of recent times, but he nevertheless tortured, murdered, bribed, bombed, drugged, laundered, gambled and bought power for himself and his wife for more than 20 years. Imelda was at first crushed by him, suffering three nervous breakdowns.

But after his long-term indiscretion with his mistress, Devie Beams, was revealed (including widely-available tapes of their love-making) Imelda appears to have tilted the marital power balance with a vengeance.

She ended up with a personal airline jetting around the world on her behalf picking up food for banquets, guests for dinners, virgin white sand for beaches and celebrities for parties. When in New York she stayed at the Waldorf with an entourage of 25 at \$1,700 per head per night. She played piano duets with Nixon, danced with Khashoggi, dealt in art with Hammer, was fawned over by diplomats, film stars and presidents.

This bing of greed, on a scale rarely seen since the renaissance city states, is chronicled amply and meticulously by Sterling Seagrave. The more important and impressive dimension lies in the supporting cast list — from American presidents and the Pentagon through an assortment of lesser Western leaders and multinational corporations to a galaxy of mobsters, drug-dealers, mercenaries and financiers.

Their part in sustaining Marcos and his wife while his country disintegrated into poverty and famine and civil war makes the really interesting reading. As interesting, finally, as any inventory.

Human rights: no serious problem

By Robert R. Requintina

THE Philippines is not included among the top human rights violators in the world, according to the Commission on Human Rights.

Reporting on his recent trip in Geneva, Switzerland, where a seven-man team attending the 45th session of the United Nations CHR, Commissioner Samuel M. Soriano reported that the country was not included in the blacklist of nations with serious human rights problems.

"Though there are human rights violations in the country, it is not considered a very serious problem and, therefore, it is not an issue," he said.

He said that the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) did not secure a condemnation of the Philippines in both the open and secret session of the commission. The UNCHR only took note of the "sides" or answers of the team on the Philippine situation presented during the session.

Some international human rights groups have claimed that the Philippines is among the top human rights violators in the world. Among these groups are the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), World University Service, and the Amnesty International (AI).



Imelda Marcos as portrayed by actress Tessie Tomas in the TV docu-drama A Dangerous Life, currently being shown on Kuwait television.

For sale: jewels in Imelda's crown

TWO large boxes of jewellery, worth an estimated P300 million, left behind by Imelda Marcos when she and deposed President Marcos fled to Hawaii in 1986 will be sold by the government.

Chairman Mateo Caparas of the Presidential Commission on Good Government said proceeds from the sale of the jewellery and of several resthouses built by the Marcoses would be used to help finance the agrarian reform programme.

However, Caparas said, the sale of the jewellery and houses would have to be approved first by the Sandiganbayan.

"It's better (that we sell the jewellery) because the comprehensive agrarian reform programme (CARP) needs the funds and it's difficult to keep the jewels, which could get lost," Caparas told reporters.

Aquino guard gets 300-year-jail term

A MILITARY court has sentenced a member of President Security Group (PSG) to a total of 300 years in prison for killing nine persons during a shooting rampage in May last year.

Sgt. Marciano Contaoe was sentenced 30 years in prison for each of the nine murder counts, plus an additional 30-year jail term for the three injuries, military prosecutor Maj. Victorio Pabagui said.

Records of the case show that Contaoe was drinking with neighbours in Taguig, when an argument ensued. Contaoe reportedly stood up, challenged his companions to a fight, then fired his gun at a glass.

His companions included some soldiers, but none was quick enough to subdue the angry man. Contaoe then fired his .45-caliber pistol, killing five of his drinking companions on the spot.

But Contaoe's rampage had just begun.

After fetching his M-16

rifle, he barged into a neighbour's house. He shot dead four more people and wounded two children.

He went into hiding but was arrested three days later, Pabagui said.

The elite PSG, President Aquino's security force, is a special unit composed mostly of soldiers drawn from the various branches of the Armed Forces. Officials say the 2,000-member group includes the best-trained and most-disciplined troops.

Last Friday, a captain belonging to a unit that escorts Aquino whenever he leaves the presidential palace shot dead his wife and her lover when he caught them in bed in a motel. He surrendered to his superiors immediately after the killings.

Two days before that incident, another drunken presidential guard wounded two people by firing into a crowd in Tondo. Angry residents chased him and stabbed and beat him to death.

Aquino justifies hiring public relations firms

PRESIDENT Aquino justified the hiring of at least 15 PR firms for \$1.4 million, saying "every country in the world has a PR firm working for it. It is a matter of getting us a good press."

"We have every reason to do so because there are people who are fighting this government and trying to bring it down through bad propaganda," she added.

The President was reacting to the accusations made by opposition leaders Rene Espina and Homobono Adaza in last Monday's Kapihan sa Manila Hotel a weekly

breakfast forum.

President Aquino also denied that the American public relations firm, Sawyer Miller Group (SMG), had worked for her campaign in the snap presidential elections and that SMG arranged meetings with the CIA and Senator Richard Lugar's staff on certain political manoeuvres to be taken.

"No, I would never allow that," she said.

The government "not only had to counter this (bad propaganda) but also to present our side and to make clear to the influential people in Washington and elsewhere what this

government is all about and what we have done during the past three years," she said.

President Aquino said she will also look into reports that Local Government Secretary Luis Santos had been allegedly drawing his monthly salary from Congress even after his appointment to a Cabinet post.

A Commission on Audit (COA) report revealed that Santos, a former Davao representative received a total salary of P102,000 from July to December 1987. COA records, however, showed that his term lasted only from July 27 to September 9, 1987.

AIDS scare in movie circles

MOVIE circles are in a dither over reports that a Brazilian starlet who did some film work here and was romantically involved with some actors has been discovered to be an AIDS carrier.

The starlet has already left the country, but her sex partners are having sleepless nights, wondering if they have been infected with the dreaded disease. Well, take an AIDS test, and find out!

Trouble is, the starlet wasn't asked to divulge the names of her alleged sexual contacts here. This is the standard procedure to be able to contain the spread of the infection.

Since their identities have not been ascertained, they could go on to have sex with other women, and possible infect them with the disease without their even knowing it.

These men know who they are. It is their duty to report to the authorities, take the required tests, and abstain from having sexual contact with others until the negative results of the tests are in.

Who are these men? All that showbiz reports have to offer are "blatant" items: "An actor turned TV host, the son of movie director, an action director, a notorious character," etc.



Guests welcome spring at FLASSIK's barn dance at the Holiday Inn

Springtime in Kuwait

FLASSIK barn dance is a hit

To celebrate the arrival of spring (dust storms included) FLASSIK, the association of Filipino ladies in Kuwait held a rip-roaring "Barn dance" Friday, March 31 at Kuwait's Holiday Inn Hotel.

Participants of various nationalities attended the dinner and dance show including Alunam C. Glang, the chief of mission, Philippine Embassy, and his deputy Fortunato D. Obiena.

Grace Dela Fuente, winner of last year's sonfest set the theme for the evening with her ode to spring. A charming spring offer-



A guest enjoys herself

ing to FLASSIK & friends was also sung by Vangie Simoy. A dance-number entitled special Spring Bounty to FLASSIK friends was directed by Esther Madamba, and choreographed by Mer Q. Delara.

The evening was ably 'emceed' by Rose Formantes and Mer Q de Lara, while the over-all chairperson was FLASSIK president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias.

The proceeds of this project are to go towards the association's vital welfare projects which seek to aid the needy Filipino expat workers in Kuwait.

FLASSIK blitz on service

THEIR faces literally lit up when they saw welfare officer Andy Santos of the Overseas Workers' Welfare Administration approach them. Accompanying Santos were FLASSIK officers and friends of FLASSIK for the visit to the Dahiyah Abdallah Al Salem police station. These Filipinos have been held in custody for various employment-related problems.

The jail visits have become one of FLASSIK's priority welfare projects. Even Kuwait's weather last Sunday, March 27 did not deter FLASSIK from greeting these detainees a Happy Easter.

They brought along Filipino dishes, their Easter greetings and a kind ear for those who would recount their story of how they ended up in such a situation bereft of support from friends, relatives and their employers.

Earlier, the FLASSIK president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias met acting Philippine embassy Labour Attache. Lamberto Marin, welfare officers Andy Santos and Joe Alfonso and legal officer attorney Loi Cortel to co-ordinate efforts that would ameliorate the plight of these detained Filipinos.

In another development, FLASSIK visited recently-admitted V.N. at the Psychiatric Hospital who is still under treatment and other Filipino in-patients. They also contributed the airfare from Manila to Mindanao for patient Celita D. Saavedra, who departed for Manila on March 30.

Angie Pagay, who underwent a removal of her kidney at Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital left Kuwait for Manila on March 25. FLASSIK officers and friends bade her farewell and handed her cash for her airfare to the province.



A group of FLASSIK members outside the Dahiyah Abdallah Al Salem police station with their bags of goodies for the detainees.



A cash donation is handed over to Celita Saavedra from the Psychiatric Hospital by FLASSIK's Esther Madamba

FLASSIK also shouldered part of the airfare to Manila for Elsa Yabes who is presently at Suleibiya prison awaiting urgent repatriation due to health reasons. The gift was handed over to welfare officer Andy Santos.

Meanwhile, Zeny Tomas, the Filipino nurse who underwent a head operation and radiation treatment left Kuwait on March 17 to join her family in the Philippines. In a recent letter she has expressed her gratitude to the Filipino community here who helped her during her illness and hospital confinement.

Apart from FLASSIK she mentions Aysha Al Saadoun, director of nursing, Al Adan health region. Zeny's personal efforts were airfreighted by Boodai Aviation Cargo Division through the courtesy of Samer Darwish.

FLASSIK invites referrals for their hospital co-ordinating committee and welfare referral project. Just approach any FLASSIK officer and friend. They're always ready to help and serve the needs of less fortunate Filipinos here.



FLASSIK VP Chary Muceno hands over a farewell gift to Angelita Pagay who will be leaving for Manila after a kidney operation.

Cooking success at the Pullman

FRESH from their grand success of the Hair Science Class, the Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (KAPILKU) added another feather in their cap with their second and third courses for baking and cooking (Asian Dishes) respectively, held on Friday, at the Pullman Hotel. The class was sponsored by Boodai Aviation in Co-operation with the Pullman Hotel.

Ojie Olor, Vice-President for Welfare and Special Projects and the chairman of the cooking class demonstrated new techniques in baking like sponge mixing, cake fillings, icing preparations, cake decorations and pastry. Black forest, cheese cake and dough preparation were introduced to the delight of more than 50 enth-



The participants of KAPILKU's baking and cooking class at the Pullman hotel. The class was conducted by Ojie Olor, the executive chef of the hotel.

usiastic participants, who were given the additional bonus of tasting the delicious concoctions.

Olor who is also the Executive Chef of the Pullman Hotel, with nine years of experience in the Gulf to his credit, also introduced Filipino food for cooking and demonstrated the proper way to prepare Stuffed Chicken (Rellenong Manok) and Stuffed Rolled Beef (Morcon) two popular Filipino dishes.

He also demonstrated decoration techniques like rose tomatoes, red radish garnishes, spring onion curls, a date tree mode of carrots, turnip flower,

and many other ideas and decoration.

Sous Chef A.S.M. Tahir & Pastry chef Rodel Gregorio assisted Olor in the classes.

Basic aids in cooking and guidelines were also presented as well as some cooking tips.

Due to popular demand a special class of Asian dishes will be held next month.

A Certificate of Attendance will be given to all successful participants next month courtesy of the sponsoring company, Boodai Aviation Cargo Division (Mabuhay Philippines Door to Door Service).

Registration open for hotel class

KAPILKU will hold their long-awaited course on Hotel & Restaurant Operations on Friday, April 7 at the Holiday Inn Hotel (Auditorium) from 1 pm to 5 pm.

The class will run from April 7 through 14, 28 and May 5. Successful participants will be awarded a Certificate of Attendance.

Homer L. Mesina, Vice-President for Media and External Affairs and the chairman of this project, said that the main objective of this project is to familiarize the participants with the basic operations of the Hotel and Restaurant industry. He

says that the growth in these industries is tremendous and those who might want to venture into this business, will profit from the course.

AVP Lulu Alelojo and Pete Nierva are the vice-chairperson and vice-chairman respectively. The first two weeks, that is, from April 7 to 14, will cover Hotel Operations composed of Food and Beverages, Room Division, General Information in Marketing, Advertising, Promotion, Sales and Purchasing.

The second part will take up Restaurant, Concepts (Franch-

ise & Local). Feasibility Study, Management Information System and Operations.

For registration and particulars, please contact Sarah Macarimbang on telephone number 4843447.

Admission is free to All KAPILKU members.

All male participants are requested to wear a tie.

The Hotel & Restaurants Operations Class is sponsored by Boodai Aviation, Cargo Division (Mabuhay Philippines Door to Door Service).

GOING PLACES

A question of reference

By Richard Foltz
Arab Times staff

STEVE Michael and his Zambezi band gave an incomparable performance Friday evening at the Salmiya Sports Club stadium. The performance was incomparable because, as there has never before been an outdoor concert of non-Arab popular music in Kuwait, there are no precedents to compare it with.

That's probably the level on which Friday's show can most flatteringly be judged. For those who crave reggae and want to hear it live, this may be their best shot. As an outdoor concert, well, it was no Woodstock, but then how could it be? Given a particular set of circumstances, optimists generally adopt a "do the best you can with what you've got" approach.

The band itself was competent, that is, at least of the calibre it takes to get booked in a Holiday Inn lounge in most countries of the world. Michael's voice didn't always reach pitch, but the soundmen covered for him by cranking the treble range so high through the undersized P.A. system that an average ear could hardly tell the

difference. Imagine a thousand million locusts swarming around your head all madly blowing on kazoons, and you will have some idea of the effect.

As for stage presence, Michael and his band don't really have any, but to be fair his mentor Bob Marley used to perform under, once again, quite a different set of circumstances. But since it can be argued that it is the circumstances which give birth to a particular art form, doing things out of the context they relate to can be an awkward undertaking.

Like the performers, Friday night's audience was rather subdued, at least it seemed so to one who can't resist dragging in comparisons from elsewhere. Families were more numerous than groups of young people, and perhaps this was a good thing. The audience wasn't very large, and perhaps this was a good thing too.

For some, a show like this one probably represents a great step forward on the local scene; for others, a faintly depressing echo of something very much removed. It all depends on your point of reference.



Tapati Ray (fourth left) with some of the models.

Fashion bonanza

MORE than 190 women attended last week's fashion show and get-together held by the International Ladies Tea Party at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Colourful costumes, some displayed at previous fashion shows, were shown. They were designed by Fawzia Ayoub, a Pakistani and Tapati Ray, an Indian. A selection of salwar kameezes from Kitty Bhasin's boutique Bianca were also shown. Twenty one models paraded in casuals and party dresses, made with chiffons, silks and cotton, blending Oriental designs with Western fashion trends. The tea party was organised by Seema Farooqi and Rukhsana Rashid.



Nabila models a salwar kameez designed by Fawzia Ayoub.



An embroidered dress shown from the Bianca collection. (Photos by Javed Basra)

Musical nite

SEVERAL local amateur singers and dancers took part in Vishal Group's musical nite held at the Sharq Co-operative Hall on Friday night. Arjun Gehi, who has been taking part in several amateur shows in Kuwait, formed the group to give encouragement to new talent. Pictures show some of the singers and a dancer who participated in Vishal's concert.

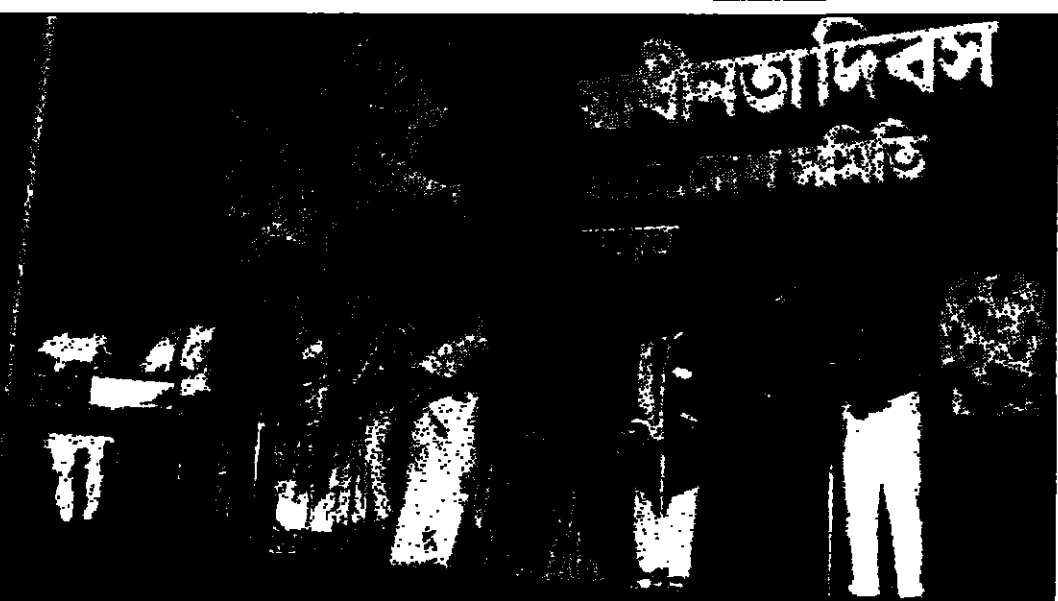


Dancers on the beach

THOUSANDS of Indians had fun on the beach at an open air community folk dance fete held by Thapasya, an Indian group, on Friday at the Messilah Family Beach. It was a dual celebration for Thapasya: their fifth anniversary and the centenary celebrations for Jawaharlal Nehru.

The folk dancers presented a varied show featuring numbers from different regions of India. The folk dances included garba, dandia ras (Gujarat), kumbi (Goa) and bhangra (Punjab). Folk dances from Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala were also presented. The classical touch was given by Prameela Surendran and Balu, who presented a Bharata Natyam number.

The festival was opened by Indian Counsellor R.S. Makhija. Above: Balu and Prameela performing a classical dance.



Cultural evening

A CULTURAL evening was organised by the Bangladesh Association on their country's Independence and National Day. It was held on Friday night at the Labour Union Hall. The variety show featured songs and dances by Bangladeshis. A large number of diplomats and Bangladeshis attended. Pictures show (above) some of the singers who participated in the show; (left) Bangladesh Ambassador K. M. Shehabuddin (right) with Indian Ambassador N.N. Jha (second right) seen with guests.



TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoon Serial
10.00 Al Mubarakat Arabic serial: featuring Mahmoud Saud, Ahmad Mazhar, Safiya Al Omari, Ahmad Maher
11.00 Al Daktoor: Arabic serial, starring: Hayat Al Fahd, Khalid Al Obaid, Tayeba Al Farah, Abdul Aziz Haddad
12.00 That's Incredible
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite/Closedown

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.45 Hikayat Alamiya: cartoon serial
5.15 Tum Tek and Children
5.45 Thousand and One Nights
6.00 Islam Wal Insaan: daily religious serial
7.00 News Summary

7.15 Nur Al Islam: religious serial
7.50 Diwanayat Shua'ra Al Nabt: poetry session
8.30 Good Evening
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Al Muhamiya: Arabic serial, featuring Firdous Abdul Hamid, Nabil Nur Al Din, Ahsan Qalawi, Ahmad Khamis, Zizi Mustafa
10.45 Variety Show with Lebanese singer Ahmad Duqqan
11.50 News Summary
11.55 World News via Satellite
12.20 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial
6.30 The Animal Express
7.00 Wonderstruck: a look at the latest innovations in

science and technology
7.30 Life with Lucy: comedy. Lucy wants to prove she is better than her friend
8.00 News in English
8.40 Magnum: "Great Hawaiian Ad" starring: Tom Selleck
9.40 Dive to Adventure: documentary
10.00 Perfect Strangers: "Just Desserts."
Balki's friends ask him to produce an Italian dessert on a commercial scale
10.30 Best-Seller: "A Dangerous Life." Part 3. Marcos fights back to stop the "reformed officers" rebellion in his Army
11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 Newstalk
30 Composer of the Month (ex 23rd A Midsummer Night's Dream)
0100 News Summary (ex 23rd) followed by Play of the Week: 2nd and 9th Body and Soul; 16th A Pair of Spectacles; 23rd A Midsummer Night's Dream Contd.
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The Girl in His Past (ex 2nd The Picture of Dorian Gray
30 The Ken Bruce Show
0300 World News
09 News About Britain
15 From Our Own Correspondent
30 Screenplay
0400 Newstalk
30 Sing Gospel
45 Worldbrief
0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Financial Review
40 Words of Faith
45 Letter from America
0600 Newstalk
30 Jazz for the Asking
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 From Our Own Correspondent
45 Book Choice
50 Waveguide
0800 World News
09 Words of Faith

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Ghanem Pharmacy
Fahad Al Salem St.
Al Amal Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kabir St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Firdous Pharmacy
Beirut St.
Fahadeel and Ahmadi
Al Ittihad Pharmacy
Makkah St.
Khaitan
Al Tasamam Pharmacy
Ibn Seereen St.
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Matafi St.
Salmiyah & Rumeithiyah
Al Randa Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak Street.

15 The Pleasure's Yours

0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Nature Now
30 Financial Review
39 Book Choice
45 Short Story
1000 News Summary followed by Science in Action
30 In Praise of God
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 From Our Own Correspondent
30 Composer of the Month (ex 23rd) A Midsummer Night's Dream
1200 News Summary (ex 23rd) followed by Play of the Week: 2nd and 9th Body and Soul; 16th A Pair of Spectacles; 23rd A Midsummer Night's Dream Contd.
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Sports Roundup
45 Worldbrief
1400 News Summary followed by leaders and leadership
30 Anything Goes
1500 Newstalk
15 Concert Hall (ex 9th Sports-world)
1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Russia - The Drive to Empire
45 Letter from America

FM Services

0800 Easy Listening
0830 News
0840 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1300 Easy Listening
1330 News
1400 Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Latin American Hour
1800 Pops
1900 Hitler Skelter
2130 News
2145 Pops
2200 Jazz Hour
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Music
0200 Closedown

Umm

1900 Opening
1910 Behteren Qaul
1916 Programme Preview
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Ek Khayal Ek Geet
2000 News
2020 Songs
2040 Geet Kahani
2100 Closedown

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Florida Straits
Starring: Raul Julia, Farid Ward
Al Salmiya
Inner Space
Starring: Dennis Quaid
Al Hamra
El'Al Ami (Arabic)
Starring: Ilham Shahin, Mohsin Mohiuddin
Drive-In
Amber Al Maut (Arabic)
Starring: Noor Al Shareef, Afaf Shuaib
Al Firdous
Suraj (Hindi)
Starring: Rajinder Kumar, Vyjayantimala
Fahadeel Open-Air
Dil-e-Nadaan (Hindi)

Al Fahadeel
Space Balls
Al Jahra
Zameen Aasman (Hindi)
Granada
Zulm Ka Badla (Hindi)
Salabikhat
To Burn the Sun
Al Jeeb
Sanam Teri Kasam (Hindi)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Splitz

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.15 am
Zuhr	11.51
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	6.08
Isha	7.25

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Sufian Gallery
UNTIL April 7: Paintings by Shaker Hussain are on show at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St., daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 8 pm.
Modern Soviet Art
UNTIL April 6: Modern Soviet art is on show at the Kuwait National Museum. Organised by the Soviet embassy in co-operation with the museum. Open during museum hours.
Free Atelier Studio
UNTIL April 8: A Jordanian art exhibition is open at the

Free Atelier Studio, Gulf St., daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8 pm. The show has been organised by the Jordanian embassy in co-operation with the National Council for Culture Arts and Letters.

Ghadir Gallery
APRIL 2 to 13: Yemeni artist Abdullah Al Amin will show his latest paintings at the Ghadir Gallery, Salmiya Complex. The exhibition will be open from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 8.30 pm.

Formative Arts Show
UNTIL April 5: A formative arts show is being held at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery. More than 80 painting by Arab and Gulf artists are on display. Open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8 pm.

THEATRE

Malayalam Drama
APRIL 1: Gayathri Arts will present their first Malayalam drama "Karutha Pannam" at Indian Arts Circle. Written by Chandran and directed by Nandan. Inquiries call 5643126.

SOCIAL

German-Speaking Cultural Association
APRIL 1 (Saturday): The election for the new committee will take place on Saturday, 8 pm, at the Holiday Inn. Ballroom. All members are urgently requested to attend.
St Georges Day
APRIL 20: KLT celebrate St

Georges Day at Unity Centre. Ahmadi. Entertainment and refreshments. To join them, call 3983724; 3983964.

HOTELS

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At the Continental
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At the Holiday Inn
Enjoy Arabian Night in Al Andalus Supper Club on Thursday nights. Friday brunch - fun time for families; games, prizes. Also open to Jaycee Club members.

SPORTS

L & M Open Team bowling tournament
APRIL 6: 6.30 to 9.30 pm and thereafter every Wednesday and Thursday the open team bowling tournament will be held at Holiday Inn Hotel; organised by KAPILKU.

Raft Race
APRIL 4: 6.30 pm. A Captains' meeting will be held for Messilah Beach Hotel's third raft race. For details call the hotel, ext. 751.

● Essa Al Mazidi, Minister of State for Services Affairs visited the stand of Kuwait Hotels Company stall during the official opening of the Kuwait Travel Fair at the Kuwait International Fairground. Besides the properties in Kuwait, KHC represented the Tunisian hotel group Abou Nawas, Safir Morocco Hotels, Safir International Egypt and the Japanese hotel group Nikko International.

Al Mazidi was welcomed by the Chairman of Kuwait Hotels Company Ali Ahmed Alghamin Al Jabr. The Kuwaiti properties represented by Kuwait Hotels Company are Kuwait International Hotel, Khiran Resort, Messilah Beach, KHC Catering Division and the Kuwait Airport Hotel.

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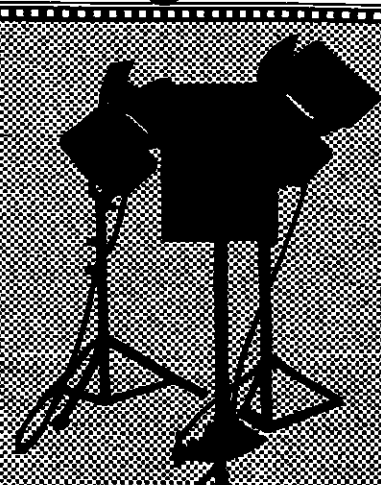
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NUGRA, Khalid Street, one furnished independent room with AC and tele facilities for one or two bachelors to share with an Indian family. Rent KD80. Tele. Mr. Oberoi, Res. 2644645, Off. 4748081. (AT6-46699-3)

RUMATHIYA, behind old Indian Arts Circle. One separate room, furnished with kitchen and tele. facilities, for an Indian couple to share with a Goan family. Tele. 5622039. (AT1-46702-3)

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QURTUBA, one floor of deluxe villa, CAC, with 5 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, intercom and separate entrance. Rent KD450. Tele. 5313656, from 4-10 pm. (AT1-46634-3)

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Miscellaneous

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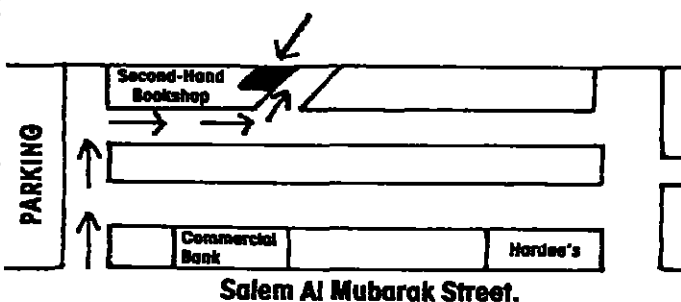
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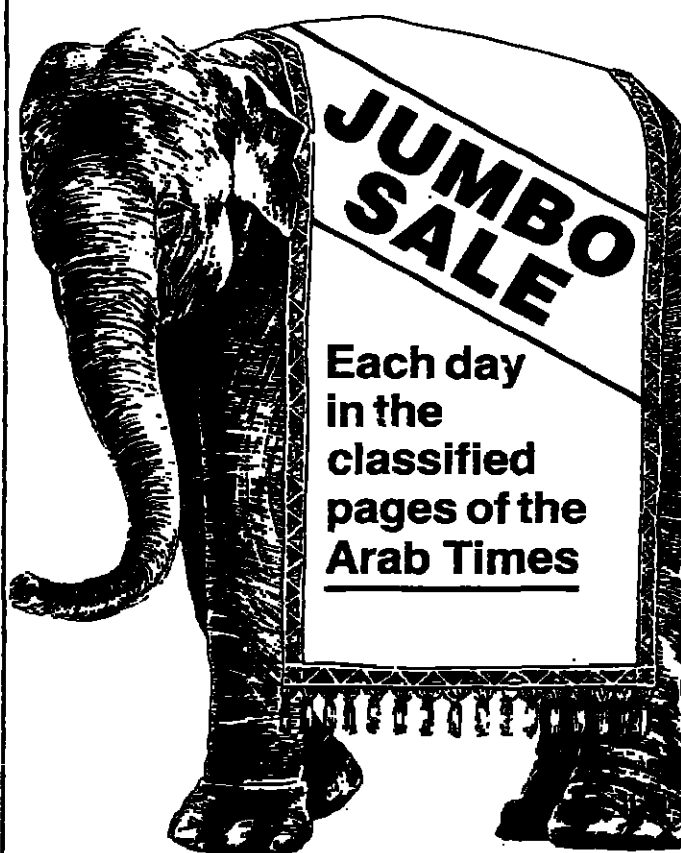
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England delay naming captain

LONDON, April 1, (Reuters): England's cricket chiefs yesterday put off naming a captain for the forthcoming Defence of the Ashes against Australia despite holding talks for several hours.

Headed by recently-appointed chairman of selectors Ted Dexter, the new-style England Committee merely said a new captain would be announced ahead of the traditional mid-May date.

They said in a statement after the five-and-a-half-hour meeting that "considerable progress" had been made towards appointing a captain but gave no further details.

Present incumbent Graham Gooch is the least favoured of three players thought to be in contention.

Newspaper reports tip Mike Gatting, axed last year after a wave of publicity over entertaining a barmaid in his hotel room, although Dexter is said to favour David Gower who led England to victory over Australia during their last tour here in 1985.

CTFA to decide Francis' fate

TORONTO, April 1, (Reuters): The Canadian track and field Association (CTFA) will likely announce next week whether it intends to keep Charlie Francis on as a national coach, association board member Bruce Savage said yesterday.

Francis was suspended as national sprint team coach by the association last October after sprinter Ben Johnson was stripped of his Olympic 100 metres gold medal for testing positive for an anabolic steroid in Seoul. Francis continues to receive his salary during the suspension.

Disqualification
Savage said in an interview that the 12-member board discussed an association report into the circumstances of Johnson's Olympic disqualification at a meeting two weeks ago.

Savage said he was not a liberty to discuss details of the meeting but added: "I can say that a decision was made at the meeting. The board agreed on a course of action and these steps are being carried out."

"I would expect that something will be announced by the CTFA next week."

Earlier this month Francis testified at a Canadian inquiry into drug use in amateur sport that 13 of his athletes, including Johnson, had used banned anabolic steroids.

Injured Muster doubtful for today's match

Lendl beats Curren to enter Players' tennis final

MIAMI, April 1, (Reuters): Austrian Thomas Muster severely injured a knee ligament in a freak car accident yesterday and will miss tomorrow's International Players Championship tennis final against Ivan Lendl.

A tournament spokesman said Muster would undergo surgery today for a severely torn medial collateral ligament in his left knee and the prognosis for a full recovery was excellent.

"But we're talking about four to six weeks in a cast and three to four months of rehabilitation," the spokesman said.

Seventh-seeded Muster was injured last night shortly after beating Frenchman Yannick Noah 5-7 3-6 6-3 6-2 in the semifinals.

He was removing his tennis kit from the boot of a car when another vehicle struck it head-on, causing the Austrian's car to

run over him.

"The car moved backward and I was pushed underneath," Muster said.

Police said the vehicle that hit Muster's car was travelling at about 100 kph.

Injury

Muster's injury is a blow to Austria's chances of beating last year's Davis Cup finalists Sweden in their world group quarter-final in Vienna starting

on Friday.

Noah, seeded 12th, went the distance three times earlier in the tournament. But the previous marathons took their toll on the Frenchman who failed to save off Muster's comeback and fell 5-7 3-6 6-3 6-2 after three hours and 10 minutes.

"It makes me feel like an old lady when he is jumping around. During the fourth set and in the fifth, he was in control of his serve and all the rallies," said the 28-year-old Noah of his energetic 21-year-old opponent.

"He was making me run a lot and all I could do was try to serve," admitted Noah.

Final

Earlier in the day, Lendl breezed into tomorrow's final with a 6-2 6-2 6-3 win over hard-serving American Kevin Curren, the 13th seed. Lendl reached the final without dropping a set.

The Czechoslovak, ranked number one in the world, allowed the South Africa-born Curren only one break point as he dominated the entire match.

In the women's final today, top seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina will face second-seeded American Chris Evert, who in the five-year history of this tournament has never missed the final. Evert won this two-week event in 1986. Noah played well in winning the first two sets. He opened the second set by taking 11 consecutive points.

But the Frenchman was visibly tired during the last two sets and offered minimal resistance to Muster's passing shots and clearly had problems bending for low shots.

The momentum began to shift toward the Austrian when he broke Noah in the opening game of the third set. Headed another break in the fifth game on a Noah



Top seed Ivan Lendl returns a shot from Kevin Curren during their semifinal match. (Reuters wirephoto)

double fault.

As the match moved into the fourth and fifth sets Muster danced around at the baseline between points while Noah struggled to catch his breath.

"I knew he was tired in the fourth set, so I tried to tell myself to keep hitting the ball hard," Muster said. "I was a little stiff in the beginning, but I think I could still play five more sets now."

Muster broke Noah to open the fifth set and repeated his effort in the fifth game with three cross-court backhand passing shots that left the Frenchman bewildered.

Noah held off two match points—one with an ace and one with a service winner in the seventh game—but watched as Muster aces him on match point in the next game.

Tiozzo wins super middleweight semifinal

ISSY-LES-MOULINEAUX, France, April 1, (AP): French fighter Christophe Tiozzo beat American James "the heat" Kinchen on a decision yesterday in a ten-round semifinal contest for the World Boxing Council super middleweight title.

The win gives the 26-year-old fighter from the Paris suburb of St. Denis 23 straight victories without a loss. Tiozzo holds a bronze medal from the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and is the middleweight champion of Europe.

Loss

"I knew it would be a fight of endurance," Tiozzo said after the victory. "Kinchen is too strong a man to send to the mat."

Kinchen, 31, was ranked num-

ber three super middleweight in the world by the WBC and International Boxing Federation before last night's fight in this Paris suburb. It was the sixth loss in 53 fights for the fighter from McKinney, Texas.

French fighters have been on a winning streak in the last few weeks. Last Saturday, Taoufik Belbouli, a naturalized French citizen from Tunisia, won the World Boxing Association junior heavyweight title, beating Michael Greer of the United States in the eighth round of a fight in Casablanca, Morocco.

In February, Rene Jacquot ended France's 30-year drought by taking the WBC super welterweight crown. In early March, Fabrice Benichou captured the IBF super bantamweight title.

The Kentucky Kid is back in the saddle

LONDON, April 1, (AP): The "Kentucky kid" is back in the saddle, and all of England is cheering.

Steve Cauten has made a triumphant return to the British turf with a 25-length victory on Monday. "I thought I might blow up in the home straight, but on the whole I'm pleased with my fitness after such a long time off."

Toppled

Seven months earlier, Cauten was lying face down on the Goodwood track in southern England. The filly he was riding, Preziosa, had fallen and rolled over him, and the trailing horse also toppled onto Cauten. The jockey was taken off the track on a stretcher and did not regain consciousness until he reached a hospital.

Cauten suffered two small cracks in his neck and missed the rest of the 1988 racing season—in which he was seeking his

fourth English Jockeys' Championship in five years.

His return to racing was welcomed by a nation that has adopted the Walton, Kentucky, native as a top sporting personality and one of its most beloved American athletes.

"I'm not as unfit as I thought. I was worried more about that than anything," he said after the victory on Ceciliano. "I thought I'd get to the two-furlong mark and need an oxygen tent."

"I've been working out, but there's only one way to get race fit—and that's riding horses."

Celebrated

Cauten already was a celebrated jockey when he arrived here in 1979, having amassed \$12 million in winnings in three years in the United States.

He was the youngest triple

crown winner as a 17-year-old when he swept to victory on Affirmed in the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness and the Belmont Stakes in 1978. The previous year he won 487 races.

Cauten celebrated his arrival in England, shortly after a 110-race losing streak in California, by winning his first race. But then he had trouble getting good mounts, and by the end of 1979 English newspaper headlines asked: Superkid or superflap?

He shot to the top of British racing in 1984, becoming the first American in 71 years to win the English Jockeys' Championship. He teamed up with celebrated trainer Henry Cecil in 1985 and won the title again with 195 victories, nearly becoming the first jockey since 1952 to win 200 times in an English flat-racing season.

WBA title fight

NEW YORK, April 1, (Reuters): World Boxing Association (WBA) welterweight champion Mark Breland will defend his title against number one challenger Rafael Pineda of Colombia on April 22, Breland's manager Shelly Finkel announced yesterday.

The fight will take place in Atlantic City.

Breland (23-1-1) had been scheduled to fight fellow American Marlon Starling, the World Boxing Council (WBC) champion on April 15 but Starling pulled out this week with a shoulder injury.

The undefeated Pineda has won 19 of his 20 bouts by knockouts.

ACOC closes doors, lays off seven

SAN DIEGO, April 1, (Reuters): The America's Cup Organising Committee (ACOC) that was to have planned the 1991 competition off San Diego closed its doors and laid off seven of nine employees yesterday.

"We're not going to be here Monday. We never suspected we would lose the court case," ACOC spokeswoman Anne Sandison told Reuters.

On Tuesday, New York judge Carmen Ciparick ordered the San Diego Yacht Club to forfeit sailing's most prestigious trophy, saying that they had violated the spirit of the deed of gift—the 102-year-old document that governs America's Cup competition—and awarded the cup to New Zealand.

Ciparick ruled that last September's races won by San Diego's catamaran against the

Mercury Bay Boating Club's huge mono-hulled sloop New Zealand were "a gross mis-match."

Fairness

"If we would have known she would have ruled on fairness, we might not have sailed the catamaran," said Tom Mitchell, a spokesman for the ACOC, formally called the Sail America Foundation which managed last September's defence.

"We didn't worry about the spirit or intent. We worried about what the deed said. Now she says spirit was most important," Mitchell lamented.

Officials of the San Diego Yacht Club and the ACOC planned to meet today to discuss whether to appeal the judge's decision or turn the cup over to Mercury Bay.

The ACOC has said they are \$3.75 million in debt with \$1.25

million in assets, mostly in boats.

A report in the San Diego Business Journal, however, put the debt closer to \$5 million and said two and one half million dollars of that were owed to Malin Burnham, who headed up Sail America and the ACOC.

Mitchell said he would help with the transition from his home and a secretary would be left behind to answer the telephone along with financial director Dick Turner, who will be kept on part time to sort out the mountain of bills.

Among the millions of dollars lost as a result of the judge's ruling was money from corporate sponsors that would have been used in part to pay the ACOC staff.

"There's nothing left to do, we keep us on the payroll," Sandison said. "Besides, there wasn't enough money to pay us."

Bush to throw out traditional first pitch

WASHINGTON, April 1, (UPI): President Bush, accompanied by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, will throw out the traditional first pitch Monday to open the baseball season for the Baltimore Orioles, federal and local officials disclosed Thursday.

At the White House, Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater announced that Bush, an avid baseball fan, would attend the season opener Monday against the Boston Red Sox at Memorial Stadium in Baltimore. State officials said the President would be bringing the Egyptian President along with him.

Sample

Bush, in his first of an upcoming series of talks with Middle East leaders, is scheduled to meet

earlier in the day at the White House with Mubarak, who is in the United States on an official working visit. He hosts a dinner for him Tuesday night.

Bush's invitation to Mubarak to sample American culture, though maybe a first for the Middle Eastern leader, is not without precedent for the president. Last summer, he escorted Kuwait's Crown Prince Sabah to the all-star game July 12 at Cincinnati's Three Rivers Stadium.

White House officials said Bush, who wore number 2 while playing baseball at Yale, also has thrown out the first pitch on at least six other occasions, though never as president. He opened the season last year for the New York Mets-Montreal Expos matchup.

Rose brought undeclared cash into US

NEW YORK, April 1, (AP): Pete Rose brought \$46,197.54 in cash into the United States from Japan in 1981 without declaring the money and was fined half the amount, Sports Illustrated reported in its April 3 issue.

The magazine also said that the Cincinnati Reds manager consulted with at least one of his former players for advice on picking horses to bet on.

Si, in editions released Wednesday, said it uncovered further information on its report last week that Rose exchanged hand signals somehow relating to baseball betting. Si had reported that a source close to a federal investigation said that Paul Janszen, a body-builder friend of Rose's, said Rose was being investigated for allegedly exchanging the signals at Riverfront Stadium in Cincinnati.

"Two other sources close to

the investigation said last week that the signals between Janszen and Rose didn't involve placing new wagers on games but related to updates on the scores of games in progress at a time early in the 1987 season when the stadium scoreboard was not working," Si said.

Rose denied exchanging any signals with Janszen. "You can check the scoreboard; I have never not worked," Rose was quoted as saying.

However, Jon Braude, the Reds' directors of information, told the magazine that the main stadium scoreboard, which provides updates from other games, was out of order from April 17 to May 28 in 1987.

Meantime, Si said it was told by a senior US customs official that Rose was investigated at least twice for currency violations. In 1981, according to the

magazine, Rose failed to declare the cash he had received from Mizuno, a Japanese sporting goods company that he endorses.

Paid

Yoshizawa Tsunao, a Mizuno official, confirmed that Rose was paid in cash in Nov 1981. "That was when he was caught, wasn't it?" the magazine quoted Yoshizawa as saying.

On Dec 17, 1986, Reuben Katz, Rose's lawyer, paid a customs fine of \$23,098.77—half the amount of the money—Si said.

The magazine also quoted former Reds pitcher Ted Power as saying that Reds discussed gambling continually in the Cincinnati clubhouse.

"Gambling just seemed like the normal thing for Pete to do," Power was quoted as saying. "People expected him to say, 'I was at the track yesterday' or 'yeah, I picked the trifecta.'"

Baseball in the eighties

A collection of great moments: an era of off-the-field activity

NEW YORK, April 1, (AP): The sixties meant great players—Mays, Aaron and Koufax with some mantle and mustache.

The seventies meant great times—the Athletics, the Yankees and the Big Red Machine.

Now, with just one year to go, how will we remember the eighties?

Maybe a collection of great moments: Kirk Gibson's home run, the Mets' miracle rally in the world series, Orel Hershiser's streak.

Perhaps an era of off-the-field activity: strikes, salaries, drugs, three commissioners and scandals for Pete Rose and Wade Boggs.

Possibly a time of parity: a different champion in every year, the only decade when no team reached the World Series in two consecutive seasons.

Most likely, history will recall the best. The best players, the best team, the best moments. That's what memory does, and so it will be when this chapter is written into baseball's history books.

So who and what are, and were, the best of the eighties?

Some are simple. Mike Schmidt has hit the most home runs. Jack Morris has won the most games. Guys like Jose Canseco, Don Mattingly, Roger Clemens and Dwight Gooden came along too late.

Runs

Others are interesting. Any guesses who has gotten the most hits this decade?

George Brett? Nope. He's not even in the top 10. It's Willie Wilson, with 1,542. But Robin Yount can overtake him; he's got 1,536 and Eddie Murray is next at 1,495. Boggs, Tony Gwynn, Kirby Puckett and other current hit machines might someday vie for the most in a split decade, 1985-1995.

This year might decide if there is a team of the decade. There might not be one, unlike in the National Football League, National Hockey League and maybe National Basketball Association. The New York Yankees and Detroit have won

the most games, 780. But the Los Angeles Dodgers are the only team to twice win the World Series. The Cardinals got there three times, winning one and blowing leads in losing the other two.

"When I think of the eighties in sports, I think of the San Francisco 49ers winning three Super Bowls and the Los Angeles Lakers repeating as NBA champions," Dodgers manager Tom Lasorda said. "And I think this is the year the Dodgers can duplicate the feat of consecutive titles."

Trophy

If they don't, other teams are poised to win their second championship. The Mets, overwhelmed by Hershiser in the playoffs, seem ready to add another trophy to the one they got in 1986.

Los Angeles leads the National League with 748 victories, followed by St. Louis at 739, Montreal at 730 and the New York Mets at 729.

The Yankees were the last team to repeat as World Series winners in 1977-78. Dallas Green

is now the 12th manager hired by owner George Steinbrenner in this decade; by comparison, the Dodgers have made a total of 12 managerial changes since 1910.

The Yankees' moves, obviously, are the most. The Chicago Cubs follow with eight. Lasorda and Detroit's Sparky Anderson are the only managers who have been in the same dugout for the entire eighties.

Whitey Herzog took over the Cardinals during the 1980 season and has stayed there.

"People keep picking us to finish poorly and we keep winning," said Anderson, who has guided the only team without a losing season this decade. "Over the last few years, the last laugh belonged to us. And that's the way we'll keep it."

Schmidt, trying to recover from shoulder surgery at age 39, also has been a model of consistency.

Leads

He leads in homers with 307, trailed by Murray at 254 and Dale Murphy with 252. Schmidt has driven in 901 runs, second to

Murray's 908, followed by Dave Winfield's 899 and Murphy's 845.

Rickey Henderson is a sure double-winner. He has 761 stolen bases (Tim Lincecum is at 542 and Wilson at 427) and scored 1,009 runs, far ahead of Yount's 856.

Wilson's 108 triples are the most. With Yount at 74 and Raines and Juan Samuel tied at 70, but Yount leads in doubles with 299, followed by (surprise) Bill Buckner at 286.

Morris dominates wins and Nolan Ryan dominates strikeouts, but the save leader might change. Morris has won 156 games, far ahead of a group bunched behind. Dave Stieb at 123, Bob Welch at 120, Fernando Valenzuela at 118 and Charlie Hough at 117 are next.

Ryan, among many prominent free agents who changed places in the off-season, has 1,866 strikeouts and will get more with Texas. Morris trails with 1,514 and Steven Carlton, who is still hoping to make a comeback, is at 1,453.

Dan Quisenberry's 233 saves are the most so far. But he may not get many more this year with St. Louis. Jeff Reardon is at 232 and coming off a 42-save season for Minnesota.

Not even Jim Lefebvre, one of six new managers the year might be able to save Seattle. The Mariners have been the worst team this decade, going 600-804, and have never had a winning season in their history.

Seattle hopes Ken Griffey Jr. might point toward a bright future. Olympians Jim Abbott with California and Robin Ventura with the Chicago White Sox could also make an impact in their rookie seasons.

A lot of good players have come into baseball in the 1980s, and I think of a lot of great players who ended their careers—guys like Reggie Jackson, Johnny Bench and Carl Yastrzemski," Raines said.

"In general, I think of the 1980s as a time when big things happened, on the field and off," he said. "Everything, you name it."

Harper leads Mavericks past Pacers in NBA action

NEW YORK, April 1. (AP)—Derek Harper scored 29 points, including a layup that tied the game with 1:37 to go, as the Dallas Mavericks beat the Indiana Pacers 105-102 yesterday and snapped the National Basketball Association's longest current losing streak at 12 games.

The victory was the Mavericks' first during their current four-game road trip and halted the franchise's longest losing streak since 1981.

After Harper's basket, a free throw by Lualaba Thompson, who finished with 23 points and 12 rebounds, put Indiana ahead 98-97.

But the Mavericks used four straight free throws from Sam Perkins and Rolando Blackman to take the lead for good 101-98 with 43 seconds remaining.

Bernard King celebrated his new two-year contract by scoring 30 points to lead the Washington Bullets to their 12th straight victory, 107-105 over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Dominique Wilkins scored 31 points and Moses Malone 27 even though both sat out the final quarter as the Atlanta Hawks beat the New Jersey Nets, 116-99.

Charles Barkley's 24 points and 15 rebounds led the Philadelphia 76ers in a 114-93 rout of the Miami Heat.

Kevin McHale, sidelined for the previous three games with a right foot injury, scored 30 points as the Boston Celtics won four games over .500 for the first time this season, beating the Houston Rockets 126-109.

Mark Price and Ron Harper combined for nine points during a 16-7 Cleveland run late in the fourth quarter as the Cavaliers ended the Chicago Bulls' six-game winning streak with a 109-100 victory.

Mitch Richmond scored 37 points, six of them during a decisive 12-0 run in the fourth quarter, and Chris Mullin added 34 points for the Golden State Warriors, the only team in the NBA the New York Knicks didn't beat this season. The final score: Warriors 134, Knicks 114.

I.A.C. Badminton Tournament

SANJAY Sharma, Mathew Jacob, Geku George and Sumant Sharma moved on to semifinals in Junior Boys' Singles event in the I.A.C. Badminton Tournament sponsored by P.K. Merwah and Jashanmal and Partners with additional prizes offered by Lipton Tea Company and Adidas.

Today's fixtures

7-8 pm, Women's singles: Reeny Tharian vs Asha Kutty; Susan Jacob vs Remy John.

Boys' singles: Sanjay Sharma vs Mathew Jacob; Geku George vs Sumant Sharma.

8-9 pm, Women's doubles: Reeny Tharian and Sujia Varghese vs Asha Kutty and Viji Kutty; Shobha Nair and Roshini vs Accamma Rajan and Susan George.

9-10 pm, Couples' doubles: Mrs and Mr Varghese Joseph vs Mrs and Dr Srivastava; Mrs and Mr Rajan Daniel vs Mrs and Mr Edwin vs Mrs and Mr Louis Gonsalves; Mrs and Mr Madhu Nair vs Mrs and Mr Jacob Mathews.

Bucksands beat Ahmad

BUCKSANDS Golf Club beat the Ahmad Golf Club in the second leg of their annual friendly match on Friday.

The weather was good and the field of the players produced good quality golf. Conners of Ahmad shot a gross 74 while 14-year-old Rayan Broussard of Bucksands netted 64. The day marked two events.

It was the last match for Jim Watchel who is returning to the US after 11 seasons while Josh Tharp came from retirement in California to rescue his home club after leaving for 11 seasons.

Although Ahmad won the first leg of this contest by 12 matches to 9, Bucksands took the trophy on aggregate of 21 matches to 15. Andrew Hill, Ahmad captain, congratulated Bucksands for their first win over Ahmad and presented the trophy to Jamal Bazzari, the Bucksands president.

Inside competition honours were evenly divided. Chris Poplar (Ahmad) won closest to the pin for men and Sigrid Suwars (Ahmad) won the longest drive for ladies. Joyce Austin (Bucksands) won closest to the pin for ladies and Bob Grimstead (Bucksands) won the longest drive for men.

Arsenal meet Manchester United today

Liverpool beat Norwich to move closer to title

LONDON, April 1. (Reuters)—Defending champions Liverpool, timing their late-season charge to perfection, beat title contenders Norwich 1-0 away today to move to within two points of English League leaders Arsenal.

A first-half strike by their captain and Ireland midfielder international Ronnie Whelan was enough to secure Liverpool's seventh consecutive First Division victory which enabled them to leapfrog Norwich and move into second place.

Arsenal, who play Manchester United at Old Trafford tomorrow in a match to be televised live, have 59 points while Liverpool are on 57 and third-placed Norwich on 56. All three teams have eight games left.

Liverpool, following a relatively modest first half to their season in which they were plagued by injuries, have rekindled their title defence and reached the semifinals of the FA Cup with a run of 15 unbeaten matches.

The champions dominated in midfield against a Norwich side seeking to win the Division One crown for the first time and seized the lead after 21 minutes.

Full-back Steve Staunton made the inroads with a break down the left flank, and when England winger John Barnes failed to control the defender's cross, Whelan nipped in to drive home the winning goal from 10 metres.

Liverpool's drive towards the top — they were 19 points adrift of leaders Arsenal five weeks ago — produced Norwich's biggest crowd for more than five years, 26,338, for a clash that transcended all else in the programme.

The off-field behaviour of Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough was as much a

focus of attention as the on-field action in his team's 4-1 drubbing by FA Cup holders Wimbledon — their heaviest away defeat of the season.

Clough, currently banned from the touchline after striking supporters who invaded the Forest pitch recently, abruptly left his seat accompanied by a policeman after only 18 minutes, by which time Forest trailed 2-0.

Denied

Local police denied that Clough had been asked to vacate the directors' box after his first verbal outburst in front of guests who included the Lord Mayor of London, and apparently insisted it was his own decision to retire to the dressing room.

Early goals from Lawrie Sanchez and Paul Miller gave Wimbledon the upper hand but striker Nigel Clough, the manager's son, pulled one back after 31 minutes. However, late strikes by John Fashanu and Sanchez sealed the home side's success.

Everton also scored four times to brighten their moderate season by hammering Queens' Park Rangers 4-1 at home.

Wayne Clarke and Kevin Sheedy, from the penalty spot, put them 2-0 ahead in the first half and after Mark Falco pulled a goal back, with a 53rd minute spot kick, Everton strode to victory with further goals from Tony Cottee and Trevor Steven.

Results

English Division One
Aston Villa 2 Luton 1
Charlton 2 Middlesbrough 0
Derby 1 Coventry 0
Everton 4 QPR 1
Norwich 0 Liverpool 1
S Wednesday 3 Millwall 0
Southampton 1 Newcastle 0
Tottenham 3 West Ham 0
Wimbledon 4 Notts Forest 1
Playing tomorrow: Manchester United v Arsenal

English Division Two
Brighton 2 Man City 1

Chelsea 5 Barnsley 3
Hull 1 Portsmouth 0
Leeds 3 Bournemouth 0
Leicester 1 Oxford 0
Oldham 1 Bradford 0
Sheff Wed 1 Crystal Palace 2
Stoke 2 Plymouth 2
Sunderland 2 Birmingham 2
Swindon 1 Blackburn 1
Walsall 0 West Brom 0
Watford 3 Ipswich 2

English Division Three
Brentford 1 Aldershot 1
Bristol Rovers 1 Blackpool 0
Bury 0 Huddersfield 6
Cardiff 1 Bristol City 1
Chester 0 Bolton 0
Chesterfield 2 Swansea 0
Gillingham 1 Northampton 0
Mansfield 3 Wolves 1
Notts County 1 Wigan 0
Preston 1 Fulham 4
Reading 3 Port Vale 0

English Division Four
Burnley 3 Hereford 3
Carlisle 2 Hartlepool 1
Darlington 1 Tranmere 2
Exeter 3 Peterborough 1
Leyton Orient 3 Grimsby 0
Lincoln 0 Stockport 0
Rotherham 0 York 1
Scarborough 3 Exeter 1
Scunthorpe 2 Doncaster 1

English Division Five
Cam United 2 Wrexham 0
Colchester 3 Rochdale 0
Torquay 2 Crewe 1

Scottish Premier Division
Aberdeen 1 D. United 0
Celtic 1 Rangers 2
Dundee 2 St. Mirren 1
Hearts 2 Hibernian 1
Motherwell 1 Hamilton 0

Scottish Division One
Airdrieonians 2 Q of the South 0
Clydebank 2 St. Johnstone 2
Forfar 0 Ayr 0
Kilmarnock 0 Falkirk 0
Morton 0 Meadowbank 2
Partick 0 Dunfermline 0
Raith 2 Clyde 0

Scottish Division Two
Berwick 1 Queen's Park 1
Brechin 2 Albion 1
Cowdenbeath 1 Arbroath 1
East Stirling 4 East Fife 2
Stenhousemuir 2 Montrose 3
Stirling 3 Dumbarton 3
Stranraer 1 Alloa 4

Standings

Tabulate — played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points.

English Division One
1 Arsenal 30 17 8 5 39 31 39
2 Liverpool 30 16 9 5 43 22 37
3 Manchester United 30 16 8 6 42 31 36
4 Tottenham 31 14 8 9 43 36 30
5 Millwall 30 12 12 6 44 34 48
6 Notts Forest 32 12 11 9 43 47 35
7 Tottenham 32 12 10 10 39 33 46
8 Coventry 29 13 6 10 38 33 45
9 Derby 30 13 6 11 32 28 45
10 Man United 32 11 10 7 37 43 31
11 Everton 30 11 10 9 40 36 41
12 QPR 31 9 12 31 30 37 31
13 Sheffield Wed 31 9 9 13 29 40 36
14 Aston Villa 32 8 10 14 37 47 34
15 Charlton 31 7 12 12 35 45 33
16 Middlesbrough 31 8 9 14 35 50 33
17 Southampton 30 7 11 12 32 56 32
18 Luton 32 7 9 16 31 47 30
19 Newcastle 31 7 8 16 29 51 28
20 West Ham 28 5 7 16 22 47 22

English Division Two
1 Chelsea 38 23 11 4 40 80 40
2 Man City 38 20 10 8 64 30 70
3 West Brom 38 18 15 7 56 33 63
4 Blackburn 38 18 9 11 61 52 63
5 Watford 38 16 9 13 51 57 57
6 Leeds 38 14 10 14 50 61 56
7 Ipswich 38 17 16 5 58 33 56
8 Bourne 37 17 15 4 55 48 55
9 Crystal Palace 35 15 10 10 51 55 55
10 Swindon 31 17 12 3 55 35 53
11 Stoke 36 14 12 10 47 52 54
12 Barnsley 37 13 11 13 52 52 52
13 Leicester 38 12 10 16 47 48 48
14 Portsmouth 38 12 12 14 46 47 48
15 Sunderland 38 12 12 14 46 47 48
16 Bradford 38 10 15 13 41 48 45
17 Plymouth 38 11 11 16 49 54 45
18 Oldham 38 16 13 6 62 43 43
19 Brighton 38 12 7 19 50 56 43
20 Shrewsbury 37 11 14 12 36 53 35
21 Walsall 37 4 13 20 36 61 25
22 Birmingham 37 5 10 22 31 61 25

English Division Three
1 Wrexham 36 22 8 6 79 38 74
2 Port Vale 36 19 9 8 65 39 66
3 Sheffield U. 34 19 6 9 73 40 63
4 Bristol Rovers 36 17 12 7 57 63 53
5 Fulham 37 18 11 15 59 60 59
6 Preston 38 16 11 11 66 59 59
7 Swans 37 15 12 10 45 39 57
8 Bury 36 17 12 12 52 55 55
9 Chester 38 12 11 14 48 52 53
10 Huddersfield 36 15 11 14 52 53 52
11 Bradford 36 14 9 13 41 42 51
12 Mansfield 37 12 11 14 44 50 50
13 Notts County 37 12 11 14 42 50 50
14 Reading 34 13 10 11 42 50 49
15 Brentford 34 13 10 11 42 50 49
16 Rotherham 37 12 11 14 44 55 47
17 Bolton 38 12 9 19 40 53 51
18 Northampton 38 12 9 19 40 53 51
19 Cardiff 34 11 11 12 37 47 44
20 Chesterfield 38 12 6 20 41 71 42
21 Blackpool 36 9 12 15 39 44 39

Napoli slump 4-2

AC Milan win ahead of Real Madrid clash

ROME, April 1. (Reuters)—AC Milan convincingly beat Atalanta 2-1 in the Italian League today to set themselves up for next week's red-letter Champions' Cup tie against Real Madrid.

But Napoli, sorely missing the sparkle of convalescent Diego Maradona and clearly absorbed with their own UEFA Cup semifinal against Bayern Munich, went down 4-2 to visitors Juventus for only their third League defeat of the season.

Both clubs played their First Division tie a day early to enjoy maximum rest before Wednesday's first leg European games.

League leaders Internazionale Milan will go into their match with Como tomorrow with a four-point lead over Napoli.

Atalanta, the dark horse of the Italian season, opened the scoring against AC Milan with a fourth minute goal from Eligio Nicolini.

But the tideholders got into their stride and equalised through midfielder Alberigo Evani 10 minutes later off a cross from Dutchman Frank Rijks.

Growing in confidence, the northern side took the initiative with a fine display of attacking football and when striker Rinaldo Gullit came on in the second half after resting for the first 45 minutes, Milan looked unbeatable.

So it proved when Rijks' right-footed Milan in front in the 66th minute, after which they never looked in danger.

In Naples, Juventus not only won a classic north-south battle but also exacted revenge for being knocked out of the UEFA Cup by Napoli on March 15.

Argentine World Cup captain Maradona, confined to the bench on doctor's orders with a strained thigh, saw his men take the lead in the fourth minute through Fernando De Napoli.

Maradona expects to be fit to face Bayern but was ordered not to risk his injury today.

Napoli then sat back and paid the price of a drop in concentration when keeper Giuliano Guitani misjudged a cross by Renato Buso four minutes later and came out too early to reach the subsequent header home by Juventus' Nicolo Napoli.

Bayern's unbeaten run ended

BONN, April 1. (Reuters)—Bayern Munich's unbeaten West German League run of 27 games came to an abrupt end today when they went down 2-1 to an injury-hit Borussia Moenchengladbach.

The defeat before a capacity 34,500 crowd at Mönchengladbach cut Bayern's lead over Cologne to three points and hurt their buildup to Wednesday's UEFA Cup semifinal encounter with Napoli.

Things began well enough for the Bavarians. Swedish striker Johnny Ekstroem heading them into a 25th minute lead.

But their hosts, undeterred by having to substitute injured goalkeeper Hans-Joerg Cries and defender Andre Winkhold early on, capitalised on every Bayern slip.

Seconds before halftime midfielder Joerg Neun equalised and Christian Hochstaetter hit the winner in the 66th minute with a shot from 17 metres.

Yoo and Kim lead South Korea to victory

DORTMUND, West Germany, April 1. (Reuters)—Olympic medalists Yoo Nam-Kyu and Kim Ki Taek bounced back from a tiring defeat by Sweden to lead South Korea to a 5-0 thrashing of Taiwan in the World Table Tennis Championships today.

Yoo, who lost twice in the 5-4 reverse by the Swedes yesterday, and Kim lifted South Korean spirits with two victories apiece today in their second round group.

Secured

North Korea's 1987 world bronze medalists secured a place in the quarterfinals when they collected a second win in their round robin group, 5-0 against the Netherlands.

Chi Jong-Chol and his North Korean team-mates were meeting Poland, 5-2 winners over European silver medalists England today, in their final group match later in the day.

But with the two wins under their belt North Korea were already certain to be one of the two teams progressing from their group.

Alan Cooke, the national number one, and Carl Pearn scored England's two victories but both then succumbed to former World Cup winner Andrzej Grubba.

European champions Sweden also booked a quarterfinal place with a 5-0 victory over Nigeria, the only African team among the 16 to make the second round.

Nigerian showman Atanda Musa took his opening game against European champion Mikael Appelgren 21-17 and ran the Swede a close race in the third and deciding, going 17-13 ahead.

Musa punctuated each point he won with a yell of delight and a raised fist but Appelgren took advantage of the Nigerian's over-confidence to pull back and win the game 21-19.

China's Li Huifen, Olympic silver medalist, and Chen Zhihe had no trouble against the Romanian women, winning their second round tie 3-0 without dropping a game.

But European runners-up Czechoslovakia had to fight hard to beat Yugoslavia in the same group.

Alena Safarova clinched the tie 3-2 when she beat Fatima Isanovic after former European top 12 winner Marie Hrachova had unexpectedly lost to Yugoslavia's Jasna Fazlic in two games.

Hong Kong's women beat England for the second time in 10

days to collect their third win in their group.

Chinese-born Chan Tan Lui and Chai Po Wa, who had already beaten the Soviet Union and Hungary, added a 3-0 defeat of England to make sure of reaching the quarterfinals.

The pair beat England on March 23 in the Commonwealth Championships final in Cardiff where organisers received an anonymous letter alleging they were not eligible to play.

Kong because they had not lived in the country for two years.

But the sport's governing body, the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), said it was happy about their eligibility.

Top

Japanese champion Mika Hoshino became the first woman to take a game off the South Koreans here but the 1987 silver medalist still won the match and finished top of their second round group.

Hoshino, 23, beat Kim Young-Mi 21-15 in the first match but then Olympic and world doubles champion Hyun Jung-Hwa took the reins for South Korea, winning two singles rubbers and the doubles with new partner Kwon Mi-Sook.

Israel protest after Pakistan fails to appear

DORTMUND, West Germany, April 1. (Reuters)—Israel are to make a formal protest after Pakistan failed to appear for a men's team match against them at the World Table Tennis Championships yesterday.

Pakistan said their absence was due to confusion over the time of the match but Israeli officials said they felt they had been snubbed. The two countries have no diplomatic ties.

"We are protesting against this boycott," Israeli Table Tennis Association president Shlomo Kedar said after Israel had been awarded a walkover in the round robin group match.

"Something must finally be done about discrimination against us."

Commitment

"Their captain told our captain 15 minutes before the match that Pakistan would not be appearing. Every team in the tournament makes a commitment to play any other team," he told Reuters.

But Pakistan's delegation head, S.M. Sibtain, said the team had misread the playing schedule.

"We simply overlooked the starting time," he said. "When

we noticed the team's absence it was already too late."

International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) officials will consider the protest. "A team will be disqualified only if they refuse to play for political reasons," ITTF president Ichiro Ogimura said.

Pakistani and Israeli teams have not met in any sports event since the Asian Games in 1974 and informed sources said Pakistan had in the past made deliberate efforts to avoid playing Israel.

Barred

India, which also has no diplomatic ties with Israel, denied the Israeli team visas for the last world championships in New Delhi two years ago and barred them from the 1975 event in Calcutta.

Israel have been excluded from the Asian Table Tennis Federation because of political opposition and were ruled geographically ineligible for membership of the European Table Tennis Union (ETTU).

Pakistan and Israel failed to finish in the top 16 in the first round here and were due to meet in a play-off group.

Ballesteros moves to second place

Donald extends lead by 4 strokes in Independent Open

WOODLANDS, Texas, April 1. (Reuters)—Mike Donald equalled his opening round 67 yesterday to extend his lead from one to four strokes after 36 holes of the \$800,000 Independent Open golf tournament.

Donald stood at 10-under-par 134, four strokes better than Spain's Seve Ballesteros who shot his second successive three-under 69 to move into second place at the mid-way point.

Brad Faxon, who started the day one stroke behind Donald, and defending champion Curtis Strange were tied for third, five strokes behind the leader. Jim Gallagher and Australian Wayne Grady were another stroke back at four-under 140.

Rhythm

Donald found his rhythm and began to pull away from the field on the back nine when he birdied four out of five holes beginning on 10.

"I was nervous starting out," said Donald, who began his round with a bogey.

"I played early Thursday and left with the lead. When I got to the course this morning I was still the leader. That's pretty unusual."

"I haven't been in this position often. In fact, I don't think I've ever led after two rounds," said Donald, who began to settle down after birdies on holes five and eight.

Ballesteros had an inconsistent day despite taking over second place. The Spaniard briefly held a two-stroke lead after birdies on his first three holes. But he gave the lead back to Donald after bogeying the fifth, sixth and eighth holes.

"I started with three birdies and it looked very good," Ballesteros said. "After the bogeys the key was number nine. I told my caddy I needed a par and even though I had a tough shot I made my par. Happily I played well on the back-nine," he said.

Reunion Pro-Am

In Frisco, Texas, Don Bies, the top rookie on the 1988 PGA Senior Tour, shot a 4-under par 68 in cold, windy conditions yesterday to earn a three-shot lead after the first round of the Seniors Reunion Pro-Am.

Bies, 51, had five birdies and one bogey on the testy 7,064-yard Stonebriar country club course, which yielded only three sub-par rounds.

Gary Player and Bruce Crampton each shot one-under par 71 in gusty north winds.

Defending champion Orville Moody and Mike Hill, the brother of Dave Hill, Dale Douglass and Butch Baird all shot even-par 72.

There were numerous scores in the high 70s and 80s on the first day of the 34-hole tournament.

Ray Preece of Austin, Texas, was high for the day with a 22-over par 94.

Bies, who won two senior tournaments last year and was second at the Palm Springs Vintage Classic this year, credited a long putter with a steady day on the greens.

Masters golf

In Is Molas, Sardinia, Britain's Andrew Chandler celebrates his 36th birthday today as leader of the \$350,000 Volvo Masters golf tournament.

For the second day running he collected six birdies for a 69 yesterday and his six-below-par 138 edged him one ahead of compatriot Carl Mason, with whom he is sharing a hotel room and even a caddy. Mason carded a 71.

Seven men were bracketed in third place on 140, including Argentina's Vicente Fernandez (70), Australian Peter Fowler (69), Fiji's Vijay Singh (68) and American Charlie Bolling (72), who shared the overnight lead on 68 with Mason.

Fernandez was six under par after holing from 40 feet, seven feet and a foot to birdie the first three holes. He was out in 33 but three-putted twice coming home.

Former Australian Open champion Fowler, newly arrived in Europe, snapped up three bir-

dies in four holes coming home in 34, while Singh, who topped last year's Safari Tour money list and hence the African Order of Merit again after winning the Zimbabwe Open, had seven birdies on his card.

Sweden's Jesper Parnevik, who holed a 20-yard putt to bridge the eighth but then three-putted the next three greens, shared 10th place on 141 after a 70.

Ireland's Christy O'Connor Junior, despite a double-bogey six at the last for a 72, was on 142 with Australian Peter O'Malley (70). O'Malley lost a play-off to Britain's Mark James earlier this month in the Desert Classic in Dubai.

Malaysian Open

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Greg Bruckner shot a course record 5-under-par 67 and took a one-stroke lead in the third round of the \$175,000 Malaysian Open Golf Championship today.

"I feel great for breaking the course record and my putting was good and my drive was straight. I'm going to do the same tomorrow," said Bruckner, who last won a major title at the 1988 Singapore Open.

Bruckner stood at 211 overall after three rounds, followed by American compatriot Craig McClellan at 212.

Defending champion Tray Tyner of the United States slipped from fifth to 27th when he carded a 5-over-par 77 for a 221-total over the Ayer Keroh country club course.

Japan